Fifth Series Vol. LV - No. 6

Monday, January 12, 1976
Pausa 22, 1897 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Fifteenth Session)

(Vol. LV contains Nos. 1-10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price : Rs. 2.00

CONTENTS

34.(13).....
28-2-76...

[Fifth Series, Vol. LV, Fifteenth Session 1976]

No. 6, *Monday, January* 12, 1976 *Pausa* 22, 1897 (*Saka*)

	COLUMNS
Oral Answers to Questions :	
*Starred Questions Nos. 81 to 85, 87, 89 and 90	1—33
Written Answers to Questions :	
Starred Questions Nos. 86, 88 and 91 to 100	33—45
Unstarred Questions Nos. 426 to 466 and 468 to 538	45—144
Papers Laid on the Table	144—52
Message from Rajya Sabha	152
Release on Parole of Member—	
(Shrimati Gayatri Devi)	152
Public Accounts Committee—	
Hundred & Eighty-fifth Report presented	152—53
Estimates Committee—	
Eighty-third Report presented	153
Committee on Subordinate Legislation—	
Eighteenth Report presented	153
Committee on Government Assurances—	
Thirteenth Report presented	153
Joint Committee on Offices of Profit—	
Fifteenth & Sixteenth Reports presented	153
Statement *Re.* Helicopter Accident in the Bombay High—	
Shri K. D. Malaviya	154—55
Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways), 1975-76—	
Statement presented	156
Unit Trust of India (Amendment) Bill—*Introduced*	156
Statement *Re.* Unit Trust of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 1975—*Laid.*	156—57
Voluntary Disclosure of Income and Wealth Bill—*Introduced*	157
Statement *Re.* Voluntary Disclosure of Income and Wealth Ordinance, 1975 and Voluntary Disclosure of Income and Wealth (Amendment) Ordinance, 1975—*Laid.*	157—58
Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forefeiture of Property) Bill—*Introduced*	158
Statement *Re.* Smuggling and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forefeiture of Property) Ordinance, 1975—*Laid*	158—59
Sales Promotion Employees (Conditions of Service) Bill—	
Motion to consider—	
Shri Ram Singh Bhai	159—61
Shrimati Roza Deshpande	161—64
Shri K. Gopal	164—65

*The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

COLUMNS

Shri Vayalar Ravi . . . . . 165—67
Shri Amrit Nahata . . . . . 167—68
Shri Indrajit Gupta . . . . . 168—72
Shri M. C. Daga . . . . . 173—74
Shri Raghunatha Reddy . . . . . 174—77

Clauses 2 to 12 and 1 . . . . . 177—84

Motion to pass, as amended—
Shri Raghunatha Reddy 184

Election Laws (Extension to Sikkim) Bill -

Motion to consider—
Dr. V. A. Seyid Muhammad . . . . 185—86
Dr. Ranen Sen . . . . 186—89

Clauses 2, 3 and 1 190

Motion to pass—
Dr. V. A Seyid Muhammad . . . 190

Imports and Exports (Control) Amendment Bill

Motion to consider—
Prof. D P. Chattopadhyaya. . . . . 191—93, 196
Shrimati Roza Deshpande . . . . . 193—96

Clauses 2 to 7 and 1 . 197

Motion to pass—
Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya. 197

Resolution *Re.* Rate of Dividend payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues—
Shri Mohd. Shafi Qureshi . . . . . 197—201
Shri Samar Mukherjee . . . . . 201—204

Statement *Re.* Accident in the Chasnalla Coal Mines near Dhanbad—
Shri Chandrajit Yadav . . . . . 204—206

Discussion *Re.* Accident in the Chasnalla Coal Mines near Dhanbad—
Dr. Ranen Sen . . . . . 207—215
Shri R. N. Sharma . . . . . 215—222
Shri Samar Mukherjee . . . . . 222—227
Shri Damodar Pandey . . . . . 228—229
Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha . . . . . 229—233
Shri Shankar Dayal Singh . . . . . 233—240
Sardar Swaran Singh Sokhi . . . . . 240—241
Shri Jagannath Mishra . . . . . 241—247
Shri Paripoornanand Painuli . . . . . 247—250
Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi . . . . . 250—255
Shri Amrit Nahata . . . . . 255—259

LOK SABHA

Monday, January 12, 1976/Pausa 1897 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Coconut Boards

†

*81. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:

SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a pressing demand for setting up of a Coconut Board;

(b) whether representations were made to the Minister recently by the States where Coconut is the main commercial crop to set up Coconut Board in these States; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to take a decision soon in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Recently some representations have been received suggesting the formation of Coconut Board.

(c) The matter is under careful examination of the Government of India and a decision will be taken as early as possible.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Sir, in view of the fact that there is a widespread disease affecting the coconut cultivation in Kerala and also in other States, whether the attention of

the Government has been drawn to the fact that it is urgently needed to have some co-ordinated all-India effort so that there will be a planned and systematic replantation with disease-resistent plants? Whether the Government would help the State Governments like Kerala where the Coconut Board has been set up for undertaking such efforts?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I can only answer your question with positive 'Yes'. The hon. Member is taking very keen interest in this and we also propose to consult all Members of Parliament of coconut growing States on 21st of this month so that in addition to the suggestion made by the hon. Member even if there are other suggestions, Government of India would like to help the State Governments of the various coconut growing States and we would like to go into the matter and help coconut growers

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: We are thankful for the positive answer that the Minister has given. But I would like to ask another question. Whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact which is equally important, that is in regard to the rapid decline in the price of coconut which affects the coconut cultivation as a whole? I hope the Minister is also aware of the fact that more than 90 per cent of the cultivators are mainly small farmers. So, it affects the economy of certain States which are mainly coconut-growing. May I know whether Government would take some steps so that the cultivators' interests and the coconut cultivation as a whole can be saved from this crisis?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: India is actually a country of small

farmers and particularly of cocount farmers have very small holdings. Government is aware that recently there has been a drastic fall in prices. But the hon. Member will appreciate that in this country the prices of edible oils were very high and beyond the capacity of the consumers. All of us were trying to bring down the prices. So, if prices have come down, it is a very welcome sign. The only thing is there should not be a sudden fall which would upset the agricultural economy. This is engaging the attention of the Government.

DR HENRY AUSTIN: Is the hon. Minister aware that the coconut research stations being set up in our country such as those at Kayamkulam or Kasargode have not been rising to the occasion, as revealed by the fact highlighted by Mr. Chandrappan that the pasts have been eating up the whole coconut plantations and after some time if this continues, the people of Kerala may have to change the name of the State. Kerala means the land of coconut trees and it is envisaged that in another 25 years the coconut plantations will be completely wiped out and it would be an anachronism to retain the name. Such is the widespread impact of this disease. It is a catastrophe that our research stations are not catching up. Will the hon. Minister be able to englighten the House on this matter?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: There can be a view that there is much which can be done by our research stations to help the coconut economy But I am not prepared to take a very pessimistic view. In fact we have succeeded in evolving new hybrid stains. Allied nurseries have been established in Kerala and elsewhere to replace the diseased coconut plantations. Like human beings, if trees are unfed and not properly looked after, disease strikes them more severely. In Kerala irrigation, fertiliser does and nutrients are not adequately given. No other agronomic practices are being followed. In the adjoining State of Tamilnadu, the productivity is much higher. These points are engaging the attention of Government and hon. member need not have any fear that cocoanut plantations will be wiped out in Kerala. They would continue to play an important role in Kerala's future economy.

Sale of Agricultural Seeds to Cultivators

*82. SHRI K M. 'MADHUKAR': Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) price at which the Government are selling agricultural seeds to cultivators; and

(b) how far these seeds were available in the villages particularly in Bihar, U.P. West Bengal and Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The Government of India do not sell any seeds directly to cultivators The assessment of requirements and arrangements for production and distribution of seeds are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The State Governments themselves or through institutions like cooperatives etc. arrange to distribute seeds of hybrid or high yielding varieties of various crops sufficient to meet the requirements. The prices at which seeds of certain important crops are sold by the State Governments in Assam, Bihar, U.P. and West Bengal are given in the Annexure. According to information obtained from the State Governments of Assam, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal arrangements were made to ensure that there was no shortage of seeds for Kharif, 1975 and Rabi, 1975-76.

ANNEXURE

State	Crop	Price of Seed In Rs /Qtls
Assam		
	Wheat	277.50 and 270.50
	Paddy	200 to 300
	Jute	320
	Maize	500
	Soyabean	950
Bihar		
	Paddy	253 50 to 271 50
	Wheat	275
	Maize	415 and 436
Uttar Pradesh		
	Paddy	130 to 170
	Maize, Jowar, Bajra	150
	Wheat	180
West Bengal		
	Wheat	225 to 290
	Paddy	150 to 280
	Jute	600
	Potato	130

श्री कमला मिश्र 'मधुकर' : अध्यक्ष जी, यह जो स्टेटमेंट है यह बहुत ही मिसलीडिंग है इस अर्थ में कि जो प्रश्न किया गया है वह यह है कि गावों में विशेषकर बिहार उत्तर प्रदेश, वेस्ट बंगाल और आसाम में किसानों को बीज कहां तक उपलब्ध है। इस का जो जवाब दिया गया है वह बहुत इवेडिंग जवाब दिया गया है और यह कहा गया है कि इस में केन्द्रीय सरकार की कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं है। मैं आप को बताऊं कि बिहार में नेशनल सीड कार्पोरेशन द्वारा जो सेज का सीड किसानों को दिया गया है वह सारा का सारा ऐसा निकला कि उस से पौधे हुए ही नहीं और किसानों को इस कारण बहुत भारी क्षति हुई है। तो मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूं कि ऐसे बीजों का जिन की जांच नहीं की जा सकती हो, क्यों सप्लाई की गई। बिना जांच किये हुए बीज भेज दिया गया और किसानों का भारी क्षति हुई। क्या सरकार इस बात की जांच करेगी कि नेशनल सीड कार्पोरेशन ने कैसे ऐसा बीज भेज दिया और किन अधिकारियों का इस में हाथ था और किस लापरवाही के कारण बिहार बंगाल और आसाम के किसानों का भारी क्षति हुई है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इसके लिए कौन सी कार्रवाई आपने की है और आपकी जानकारी में यह बात आई है या नहीं आई है ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE: About the specific instance my Ministry would like to go into this and I would request hon Member's cooperation in this We have referred this question to all the State Governments and all the State Governments have replied that there was no such complaint as far as supply is concerned. If the seed has failed in any part I have no information.

श्री कमला मिश्र "मधुकर" : आपने कहा है कि राज्य सरकारों ने जितने बीज की मांग की थी उसकी पूर्ति आपने की है। लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि उसकी पूर्ति नहीं हो पाई है। आपने स्टेटमेंट में यह बात नहीं बताई है। मैं कांक्रीट टर्म्स में आपसे जानना चाहता हूं कि बिहार सरकार ने कितने बीज की मांग की थी और आपने कितने बीज की पूर्ति की है ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE: I have got the whole staement with me, how much was asked by the Bihar Government and how much was supplied For instance, the effective seed requirement of paddy was 34 000 tonnes and the availability with the State

Government was 27,000 tonnes, with the National Seeds Corporation 3700 tonnes and with the Tarai Corporation 2,000 tonnes There was no shortfall whatsoever even according to the Bihar Government

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे : पेडी का जो बीज पिछले साल मे सप्लाई हुआ है वह वहा की सायल क डेशज वहा के एटमसफीयर को देखते हुए सूटेबल नही पाया गया था और उसकी जो जर्मिनेटिग कैपेसेटी थी वह बीज डालने के दो महीने के अन्दर खतम हो गई और पाधा नही लगा। मैं जानना चाहता हू कि क्या आपको इस तरह की शिकायते मिली है ? क्या जाच पडताल के बाद और यह देखने के बाद कि किस सायल म किस तरह के बीज की जरूरत है रबी और खरीफ के सीजन मे आप ग्रोज सप्लाई करने के बारे मे व्यवस्था करेगे ? अब तो आपने जिले जिले मे सायल का टैस्टिग करने के लिए कमेटीज बनाई हुई है और आपके एक्सपेरिमेट सैंटर भी खुले हुए है।

SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE It is true that agro-climatic conditions in different parts of the country are so different that one Organisation will not be able to meet all the requirements and therefore, we have advised the State Government to have their own Seeds Corporations We have also suggested to the State Governments that it is not adequate to have Seed Corporations and they must have independent certification agencies which may be relied upon so that sub-standard seed does not go to the farmers As far as National Seeds Corporation is concerned if it is proved that any sub-standard seed has gone to the farmer, he will be compensated

SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL The question of selling of seed has got a close connection with the production of seed In this country there are different organisations which are producing seeds For instance, Pusa Institute produces one of the best qualities of seeds There are State Governments, there are agricultural universities and there are private persons also As far as seed is concerned, there is no proper machinery for the certification of quality seed and many a times, the agriculturist gets substandard seed May I know from the Minister whether it is not necessary to have coordination in the production of seed between these agencies and whether there should not be a machinery for the certification of seed so that the agriculturists are not affected adversely?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE Yes Sir I would say that coordination is absolutely necessary That is the assessment of my Ministry and that is why, we have established a Central Board for coordinating the activities in regard to seed Secondly, as I have already referred independent certification agencies are being set up by the State Governments and Government of India would like to render even financial assistance if such agencies are set up Enforcement machinery is also necessary We have advised the State Governments that enforcement machinery should also be set up

DR RANEN SEN It is well known that the Central Government is supplying all the seeds from various agencies to the States May I know why is there this wide variation in price from one State to another? In Assam, the price of wheat is Rs 277—50 in Uttar Pradesh Rs 180/- and in West Bengal Rs 225/- In regard to wheat and paddy why is there this wide variation? Is it due to the fact that the Central Government charges different rates for different States, or, is it because the States themselves evolve their own prices?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE I would first like to clarify that the Central Government does not supply seeds to anybody It is done by the National Seeds Corporation, the State Farms Corporation, the Terai Corpo-

ration—like these there are a number of public sector and semi-public sector seed organizations which supply seeds. As far as the NSC is concerned, we supply seeds at the same price uniformly to all the States. What happens is that the State Governments purchase seeds from various agencies; they pool the prices. Therefore, this price variation occurs It is not because of the differential in price of seeds supplied by the NSC.

Under-weight Shipment of Wheat from U.S.A.

*83. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:
SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen reports to the effect that U.S. companies while loading foodgrains to India supplied less quantity than officially declared;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) whether any enquiry has been made from Indian Agents there and action taken against them for failure to check the weight?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). Government have seen Press Reports to the effect that a lower level employee of M/s Bunge Corporation, New York, had deposed that the Corporation was resorting to short-weighments of foodgrain ships bound for India and African countries from their elevator at Destrehan.

(c) The Indian Embassy, Washington, who are responsible for all foodgrains purchases from U.S.A. on behalf of the Government of India, has been asked to ascertain the position.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: This raises several questions. I would like to know first from the Minister whether the Government of India has any accurate checking agency to know whether there is any under-weighment, or not. Did the Government of India know about it only from the U S. reports, or did the Government have any developed organization or its own agency? Secondly, what will be the approximate loss? Has any estimation been made about the approximate loss due to this under-weighment?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: It would be interesting for the hon. Member to know that under the statute, not only in America but in mostly all important exporting countries like Canada and Australia, they have a uniform law. Our inspection has no relevance, because under the statute, whatever their inspectors certify has to be accepted as final, under their law. This matter has been taken up by us with the U S. Government, but it is their legislation. And, therefore, our certification has no validity as far as this is concerned The problem whether we should have an independent certification agency, was gone into some time back with the help of our India Supply Mission in Washington. Whatever views our representatives there might have expressed, if they are going to have no legal validity, then we are advised what is the use of spending foreign exchange in regard to that? As far as underweighment is concerned, we only came to know from the reports from the U S. Press and the court proceedings which are going on there We have referred this matter again to the Indian embassy We are collecting details. So far, it has not come to our notice.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Government approach the U S Government about compensation on account of the loss in short weighment of foodgrains from U.S ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE: The court cases are on. The cases have not been established so far; but assuming, for the sake of argument, that the cases are established we will definitely ask for compensation.

SHRI K. GOPAL: The hon. Minister had said that we have no machinery to check the correct weighment of these foodgrains which are loaded in U.S. ports; and that our inspection has got no relevance. I would like to know whether any check is made on unloading the foodgrains in our ports in order to ascertain whether the weight is right or not.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: Unfortunately, we have no automatic weighing machines at the ports and all our unloading activities are done manually, because, first of all, if automatic machines are set up, it is a very capital-intensive proposition and it will displace labour. So, we are filling up the bags by hand and naturally that is some handicap because it is not possible to have very precise weighment because of manual handling.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO: The hon. Minister said that we have no agency to inspect. Nevertheless, may I know whether all the shipments are according to the weight as certified by the inspectorate of the American Government or the commercial concern? Is any check made there, or are we just anxious to receive the stocks as they come? Is it not the policy of the Government to check whether the stocks received are according to the weighments specified in the bill of lading?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I was referring to rough calculations. The weight is roughly calculated and accounting is done, but precise weighments are not available to us because of our methods.

Second World Congress on Water Resources

*34. SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Second World Congress on Water Resources was held in New Delhi during December, 1975; and

(b) if so, the main recommendations made and Government's reaction thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The following are, in brief, the main recommendations made by the Second World Congress on Water Resources:

(i) Water must be regarded as a national asset and planning for water resources development has to be directed towards evolving master plans on regional and national basis ignoring political boundaries and framed in the background of a clearly defined national water policy.

(ii) Conjunctive use of surface and ground water is essential. New techniques of exploration such as remote sensing and radioactive materials should be exploited to the maximum.

(iii) Water resources planning should take into account measures to alleviate or reduce any adverse environmental effects.

(iv) Research is needed on developing waste water treatment processes suited for less developed countries.

(v) Further investigations are needed on pond cooling systems and the effect on fish life by the discharge of cooling waters from thermal stations.

(vi) Water management should include other areas such as economics, sanitation, social effects etc.

(vii) Proper design of irrigation systems including improvement of delivery and control systems can save much water.

The above recommendations have been noted by the Government.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: It is mentioned in the statement:

> "Water must be regarded as a national asset and planning for water resources development has to be directed towards evolving master plans on regional and national basis ignoring political boundaries...."

First of all, I would like to congratulate hon. Shri Jagjivan Ram for using his good offices for solving the problem of the Godavari. May I know the salient points of that agreement? Secondly, about other river disputes like the Narmada etc, may I know what is going on?

MR. SPEAKER: That is not relevant to this question Please put a question on the water resources, not on river disputes.

SHRI R S. PANDEY: What is the difference between the two, because, water is, after all, flowing into the river?

One-tenth of the water of the world is flowing in this country How are we going to harness that water?

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH I require notice for this question.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: It has been stated in the statement:

> ... development has to be directed towards evolving master plans on regional and national basis ignoring political boundaries and framed in the background of a clearly defined national policy."

In this context I would like to know whether a comprehensive scheme has been developed between India and Bangla Desh to utilise to the maximum the water resources of the Teesta, Padma etc., rivers jointly?

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: This also requires notice.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Then, what is the use of the question?

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: It does not come under the conference because the conference was of a non-governmental organisation, and they have recommended certain things which we are also considering in the context of our own country. So, as regards this Padma which is an international river, we are not touching that aspect.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI: May I know from the hon. Minister what is the reaction of the Government to these recommendations, and more specially the first recommendation which says that water should be regarded as a national asset? Is the Government thinking of making any constitutional change and bringing the water resources in List One? What about recommendation No. 6 which says that water management should include other areas, such as economics, sanitation, social effect, etc? For example, the recent reports have shown that there is so much pollution in Ganges with the result that the sacred river has no longer remained sacred and it's pollution has become a problem of health hazard. Has the Government taken any steps to implement this recommendation, and if so, will he kindly give us the details?

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: The Government of India has taken note of the recommendations of the Commission and the President of India had also mentioned this in his Presidential Address when he addressed the joint session of Parliament, both Houses. We are very sincerely considering this aspect.

Readerships in Colleges

*85. SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE:
SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission have made known its proposal regarding Readerships in colleges;

(b) whether a large number of colleges, specially those belonging to minorities, have opposed the proposal; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Neither the Government nor the University Grants Commission have received any representations from the Universities, to whom the scheme has been communicated, opposing the proposals. Some suggestions from certain colleges have been received by the Commission. The Commission is looking into these.

SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE: Will the hon. Minister let us know what will be the fate of 700 selection grade teachers who are at par with the Readers, according to the present system, if and when the recommendation of the UGC is implemented, that is, new recruitment for the post of Readership begins?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN: I am given to understand that about 400 teachers of Delhi colleges who were in the selection grade have filed a writ in the Delhi High Court on the 9th January, 1976. So, it would not be proper for me to make any comment on that.

SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE: There are certain suggestions from the minority colleges, that is, from the Minority Linguistic Departments, such as South Indian languages, Telugu, Tamil and Malayalam that there are 3-4 qualified teachers and not 6. According to the new recommendations, unless you have six teachers, there will be no post of Readership. In order to have the post of Readership, they want at least 2-3 qualified teachers in a department. What is your reaction and suggestion to the Minority Linguistics Department?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN: These matters are being looked into, as I submitted, by the Commission.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: May I know the reaction of the hon. Minister and whether any proposal of the UGC has been considered or not? At present, the practice in the universities is to have a four-tier system in the teaching department like a Teacher, a Reader, a Professor and Special Chair. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is the standing practice to offer these posts by the universities or through the universities by the University Grants Commission on the basis of seniority or on the basis of academic brilliance and performance? I would like to know whether such a practice is there or not.

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN: I do not know whether I fully understood the question.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: My question is whether you take into account the seniority or the academic brilliance and performance at the time of offering these posts.

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN: The practice that has been so far followed by most of the universities is and that is the policy which has been advocated by the University Grants Commission and to which Government subscribes, that all academic posts should be filled on the basis of an open competition on an All India basis on the basis of merit

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: May I know from the hon. Minister as to the date when the decision to have the Readers in the colleges was taken? Secondly, now that the writ has been filed by the Delhi

teachers in the Delhi High Court. Was it not incumbent on the Delhi University and the authority to have this question decided prior to the filing of the writ, especially when there was a time lag between the original position and the date of filing of the writ which is 9th of January this year?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN: The letter from the University Grants Commission to the various universities Communicating the scheme is dated the 13th August. In this letter, it was stated that detailed schemes were to be submitted by the universities towards the end of November or December. The representation from Delhi teachers was forwarded by the Vice-Chancellor to the University Grants Commission *vide* his letter dated January 1, 1976. You will see that between January 1 and January 9, not all the time had elapsed.

Loss due to devastating floods in Patna

*87 SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the loss to the tune of crores of rupees was caused in Patna town by the devastating floods in August last;

(b) if so, official as well as non-official estimates of the devastation caused;

(c) whether Government have formulated a scheme to find out a solution to the problems of the flood-affected people of Patna town; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the reports received from the State Government, the tentative estimated damage to State Government Departments and public utilities is about Rs. 10.15 crores. The final figures are still under compilation. The State Government have also reported that damage to private properties has not been assessed but this is likely to be several crores of rupees. In addition to this, valuable documents in some libraries and office records have been damaged, which are not amenable to being assessed in monetary terms.

(c) and (d). Immediately after the floods, a High Level Expert Committee was set up by the Bihar Government to enquire into the Patna floods of August, 1975 and to suggest measures for future protection against similar catastrophies. The Committee is headed by Member (Floods), Central Water Commission and consists of the Chairman, Ganga Flood Control Commission, two Chief Engineers of the State Government Irrigation Department and two Members of the Bihar Legislative Assembly. The Committee submitted its interim report in November 1975 recommending flood protection and drainage works which have to be taken up on a priority basis. Its final report is awaited.

The main items of works, recommended by the Committee to be taken up on first priority are:—

(i) Construction of an embankment/masonary wall on the south bank of Ganga from Digha to Maner alongwith revetment at vulnerable places;

(ii) construction of a new embankment from Maner to Saidabad along the right bank of Sone;

(iii) construction of an escape channel from Patna canal upstream of Naubatpur through Khajuri distributary and Panchahua Nalla;

(iv) raising and strengthening of Danapur distributary; and

(v) improving and remodelling the existing urban drainage in Patna

The Commitee has also recommended that the remodelling of the drainage system in the rural areas and raising and strengthening of the left embankment of Punpun along with construction of new embankments in its upper reaches to be taken up as works of second priority

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस साल के अन्त मे पटना मे जैसी सत्यानाशी बाढ आई उस मे जो नुकसान हुआ है उस के बारे मे सरकार ने अपने वक्तव्य में दिया है कि अभी फिलहाल सवा दस करोड का सरकारी नुकसान होने का अनुमान है और जनता को कितना नुकसान हुआ है उस का पता लगाया जा रहा है। जाहिर बात है कि वह भी कम से कम उतना तो जरूर ही हुआ होगा। यानी 20–25 करोड रुपये का नुकसान हुआ है। इस पृष्ठभूमि में मैं यह जानना चाहता हू कि क्या यह बात सच है कि पटना में दानापुर मे 23-24 अगस्त को बाढ आने के पहले सभवत 21 अगस्त को मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार ने बिहार सरकार को आगाह कर दिया था कि यहा से पानी आ रहा है आप सावधान हो जाइए ईस के बावजद बिहार सरकार न कोई बन्दोबस्त नही किया जिस के कारण इस विपत्ति का सामना वहा के नागरिको को और सरकार को स्वय करना पडा ? क्या यह सभव नही था कि पटना शहर को बचाया जा सकता था बशर्ते कि सरकारी अधिकारी मुस्तैदी दिखाते और मध्य प्रदेश की सरकार जो उन्हे आगाह किया था उस पर ध्यान देते ? ऐसा नही करने की वजह से ही क्या इस तरह की विपत्ति वहा आई ?

श्री केदार नाथ सिंह : पटना में जो बाढ़ आई थी बहुकहत भयकर थी इस बात से इनकार नहीं किया जा सकता। इसी सिलसिले में बिहार सरकार से एक आयोग का गठन किया है और ये सारे मसले उस के सामने है। उस की रिपोर्ट आने के बाद इस पर बहस की जा सकती है।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : मैंने पूछा कि मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने आगाह किया था या नही, इस में रिपोर्ट की क्या अपेक्षा है ? अगर आगाह किया था तो कहिए किया था और नही किया था तो कहिए नही किया था।

दूसरी बात—सरकार ने वक्तव्य में यह भी कहा है कि फला फला कमेटी ने अस्थायी सिफारिश की है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हू कि जो कमेटी बनी हुई है उस कमेटी ने जो सिफारिशें दी है उन सिफारिशों को काम मे लाने के लिए कौन से कदम अब तक उठाए गए है ताकि अगले मई जून और जुलाई मे फिर बाढ न आने पाये और क्या बिहार सरकार ने इस के लिए भारत सरकार से किसी निश्चित राशि की माग की है ? क्या यह बात भी सच है कि अभी हाल मे बिहार विधान सभा के सभी दलो के कुछ प्रमुख सदस्यों का कोई प्रतिनिधि मडल आया था ? वह प्रतिनिधि मडल भी सिंचाई मत्री से मिला था और उस ने भी कुछ सिफारिश आप के सामने की है या स्मरण-पत्र आप को दिया है ? यदि हा तो वह क्या था ? बिहार को और पटना को बाढ़ से बचाने के बारे मे यदि इन की कोई सिफारिश है तो वह क्या है और उस के बारे में सरकार की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है ताकि हम यह आश्वस्त हो सके कि अगले साल पटना के निवासियों को ऐसी सत्यानाशी बाढ़ का मुकाबिला नही करना पडेगा ?

श्री केदार नाथ सिंह : इस बात की पूरी कोशिश की जा रही है कि यह जो भयकर बाढ़ इस वर्ष थी वह फिर अगले साल रिपीट

न हो, इस के सिलसिले में कदम उठाए जा रहे है और समिति ने जो पहली रिपोर्ट दी उस में उस ने साढ़े आठ करोड रुपए की मांग की है जिस में ढाई करोड रुपये का प्रबन्ध कर दिया गया है। उन से कहा गया है कि 31 मार्च तक उस रुपये को खर्च कर दे और जो उस की रेकमेंडेशस है उन को कार्यान्वित करे।

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र : बाढ के सबध में पूर्व जानकारी दी गई या नही मैं इस पचडे में पडना नही चाहता लेकिन यह स्पष्ट कहना चाहता हू कि यह जो बाढ थी वह बहुत ही भयकर प्रलयकारी और रोमाचकारी थी और इस से बिहार की बहुत बरबादी हुई। सरकार का जो जवाब स्टेटमेंट के रूप मे है उस मे बहुत सारी बातों की चर्चा है कि बिहार मे तत्काल क्या करना है और लोग टर्म मे पटना के बचाव के लिए क्या काम करना है। इसी सन्दर्भ मे मै जानना चाहता हू कि क्या मत्री महोदय को यह जानकारी है कि अभी फिलहाल सर्वदलीय सहज समन्वय समिति बनी थी तो उस ने साढे नौ करोड रुपये की मांग की है और क्या यह बात भी सच है कि बिहार सरकार ने योजना के नाम पर पटना के बचाव के लिए 189 करोड रुपये की मांग की है? यदि हा तो इस सबध म सरकार का क्या विचार है और सरकार क्या करने जा रही है?

कृषि तथा सिचाई मंत्री (श्री जगजीवन राम) बिहार से सदस्य लोग आए थे। सदस्य महोदय को मालूम है कि छठवें फाइनेंस कमीशन की सिफारिश के अनुसार, राज्यों में इस तरह की जो आधुनिक दुर्घटना होती है उस सबध के काम को उन के प्लान के अंदर ही किया जाता है। ये लोग यह कहने के लिए आए थे कि बिहार की ऐसी स्थिति नहीं है कि ऐसा किया जा सके। बाढ़ के नियत्रण के लिए जितने रुपये की आवश्यकता होगी वह यदि बिहार सरकार के प्लान से लिया जाय तो बिहार का सारा विकास का काम रुक जायगा। वे लोग हम से भी मिले थे, जैसा उन लोगों ने बतलाया वे लोग प्रधान मत्री से भी मिले थे और वित्त मंत्री से भी मिले थे। इस बारे मे इस प्रश्न पर विचार करना जरुरी होगा कि छठवें फाइनेंस कमीशन की जो सिफारिश है उस मे कुछ तबदीली कर के बिहार की मदद की जाय या नही।

श्री गेंदा सिंह : मै तो यह समझता हूं कि पटना की बाढ केवल बिहार की ही नहीं थी उत्तर प्रदेश की बडी नदियों और मध्य प्रदेश की बडी नदियों की बाढ ने पटना में प्रलय का दृश्य उपस्थित किया था और उस समय जगजीवन राम जी, पटना और गोरखपुर गए थे। जब वह गोरखपुर गए थे तो उन से प्रतिनिधियों ने कुछ निवेदन किया था, आप से कोई बात छिपी नही है, सौभाग्य से जगजीवन राम जी के हाथ में वह पोर्ट फोलियो है और उन के जमाने मे पटना में यह घटना घटी। उसी समय उनका ध्यान दिलाया गया था कि गण्डक, राप्ती, घाघरा, गगा और सोन ये सब नदिया पटना के लिए विनाशकारी बाढ का कारण है, क्या इन के लिए कोई बन्दोबस्त किया जायगा? तो जगजीवन बाबू ने उस वक्त कहा था कि हम कोई बन्दोबस्त इस सबध मे जरूर करेंगे। यह मामला बहुत गभीर है। अगर इन नदियों को काबू मे नही किया गया तो उत्तर भारत मे बिहार को और उत्तर प्रदेश के पूर्वी भाग को जो क्षति पहुंचती है उस क्षति को आसानी से दूर नही किया जा सकता। इस एमरजेन्सी के समय में मैं समझता हू कि उस को पहले ध्यान में आना चाहिए और अगर इस एमरजेन्सी में भी उस काम को सम्भाला नही गया तो बड़ा कठिन हो जायगा। क्या इस सबध में वयोवृद्ध खेती मंत्री जगजीवन राम जी कोई कार्यवाही करेंगे?

श्री राम सहाय पांडे : । वयोवृद्ध नहीं हैं ।

श्री गंदा सिंह : अब मैं क्यों कहूं कि वयोवृद्ध नहीं है । मेरी उम्र से तो उनकी उम्र ज्यादा ही है और मैं हमेशा उनको वयोवृद्ध मानता हूं ।

श्री जगजीवन राम : श्री गंदा सिंह ने एक वृहद प्रश्न उठाया है । इस में कोई संदेह नहीं है कि पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश और उत्तर बिहार की अधिकांश नदियां हिमालय से आती हैं और उन की धारा बहुत तेज होती है । जब बाढ़ आती है तो इन का भयंकर रूप हो जाता है । लेकिन इस का उपाय नेपाल के साथ बातचीत कर के ही किया जा सकता है और जैसा कि सदन को मालूम है इस संबंध में नेपाल के महाराजा से भी चर्चा हुई थी और उन के मंत्रियों से भी चर्चा हुई है कि अधिकांश नदियों के बारे में दोनों देशों के माहिर लोग इस मामले को देखें कि किन-किन नदियों को दोनों एक साथ मिल कर नियंत्रित करने का काम कर सकते हैं जिस में बाढ़ का नियंत्रण हो सके, सिंचाई का काम भी लिया जा सके और बिजली उत्पादन का भी काम किया जा सके । मैं समझता हूं कि उस दिशा में कुछ प्रगति हुई है दोनों देशों के प्रतिनिधि मिल कर विचार करेंगे कि किन-किन योजनाओं से पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार की बाढ़ को नियंत्रित किया जा सकता है ।

Preparations for participation in Montreal Olympic

*89. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether preparations have been made by the Indian Olympic Association for participation of Indian team in the Montreal Olympic this year; and

(b) whether his Ministry has permitted the Indian Football team to participate in the pre-Olympic Games?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Preliminary discussions between the Indian Olympic Association and the All India Council of Sports about India's participation in the Olympic Games 1976 have been held. According to mutually agreed criteria for participation of Indian teams, only the Hockey Team would clearly qualify. A programme for its training has been initiated.

In addition, a few outstanding athlets, who reach reasonable standards after undergoing further training, as per programme already started, would also be permitted.

The All India Council of Sports has given careful consideration to the question of participation of the Indian Football Team in the Olympic Games, in consultation with the Indian Olympic Association, and have not recommeded the same.

The Indian Football Team has been participating in the pre-Olympics since 1964, and has not even once qualified from the Asian Zone. In the Asian Games held at Tehran in 1974, the Indian Football Team lost badly all the three matches it played. The All India Council of Sports, has, therfore, also not recommended its participation in the forthcoming pre-Olmpic Tournament.

The deterioration in the standard of football is causing serious concern to the Government of India. Government will take necessary action in the matter in consultation with the All India Council of Sports, Indian Olympic Association and the All India Football Federation.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: In this long statement, the reasons for not allowing the Indian

Football team to participate in the Olympic Games, have been clarified. But I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware of the fact that the very concept of participation in the Olympics is not to win prizes or get medals but to enthuse amateurism among the sportsmen of the world as well as to honour the countries and also encourage them in their sports promotion and development. If India do not participate in the pre-Olympic Games just out of fear that they may lose the match, would it not result in the International Olympic Committee disaffiliating the Indian Football Team from further participation in the Olympic Games in the future?

I would also like to know how much money has been spent by the Government of India on promotion of sports on an average every year for the last five years.

SHRI D. P. YADAV: The hon. Member has rightly expressed his anxiety over the deterioration in the standard of football in the country. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member to the recommendation of the Committee of which he himself was a Member; I will read out the portion of their recommendation:

> 'While usual sports events within the country shall be encouraged and expanded, participation in international sports events shall be strictly restricted to games/sports where the Indian sportsmen have achieved standards favourably comparable to the prevailing international standards."

This was the suggestion of the hon Member, Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi. As regards the third part of his question, the total Plan and non-Plan provision will be about Rs. 1.61 crores.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: I am glad that the Minister has referred to my suggestion. I still stick to my views. My question is that the promotion of the sports in the country, and the promotion of football specially, whether national or international, cannot be the independent responsibility of the Associations or Federations. Government of India have a special responsibility too. Can the Government of India tell us in this House how much are the other developing countries spending out of their total capacity or their annual plan in the field of sports and how much are the Government of India spending. I can substantially prove that Government of India is spending on sports and games for the last two decades less than even the small African countries who participate in the international events. Does it indicate a healthy growth in the standard of football or any other game?

SHRI D. P YADAV: We are all concerned on this subject; I can simply say that within the provision of the Plan budget and the resource we have, we are trying our level best to encourage the sports in the country.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Apart from the quantum of funds, which are being allocated for this purpose, the funds may be less or more that is a matter of their financial resources, but what is more important and what I would like to know is, what specific steps are being taken and pursued to see that the governing bodies which are responsible for the development of these games, particularly football, are liberated from the grip of small coterie of vested interests who have controlled these associations for long years? Secondly, what are the detailed schemes being undertaken to see that young talented footballers are discovered and encouraged, and proper training and coaching schemes are regularly followed? Without that any amount of money that you spend will go down the drain.

SHRI D. P. YADAV: At this stage, it will be very difficult to say anything specific, but I can assure the hon. Member that through this Rural Sports

Meet in each block, we are trying to involve 1500 youths in different sports in which football constitutes a major part.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA Where are the coaches?

SHRI D P YADAV The hon Member is aware that we have limited resources But so far as coaches are concerned, we are trying to have more trained coaches now in the Patiala Institute

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA My question was about the people who control these associations He has not answered that

MR SPEAKER He cannot answer a specific question without notice

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA Why not? I can give a more specific answer if he likes

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI In the statement, it has been stated "In the Asian games held at Tehran in 1974, the Indian Football team lost badly all the three matches it played" From 1974 to 1975 is a long time During this period, what steps has the Government taken to improve the standards of Indian football team so that it can participate in olympic games?

SHRI D P YADAV I do not think, there is anything new in the question Again, I will say that we are trying our level best to improve the standards

Taming of Himalayan Rivers through multi-purpose projects

*90 SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether talks are under way with the Government of Nepal for taming the Himalayan rivers through multi-purpose projects, and

(b) whether an irrigation-cum-flood prevention-cum-power generation project is being taken up for implementation saving vast areas from flood?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH) (a) Possible schemes for the development of water resources of the common rivers for the benefit of both the countries have been the subject matter of talks between the two countries for some time past A high level team from the Government of India is expected to visit Nepal in the near future to have further talks on the subject

(b) It is too early to name a project to be taken up for implementation for the protection from floods

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा : इस सम्बन्ध मे नेपाल सरकार से पहले भी बहुत बार बातचीत हो चुकी है और अब फिर होने वाली है। बाढ के बारे मे, जिस मे इस बार पटना अक्रान्त हुआ है, हम अभी बाते सुन चुके है। हम यह भी सुन चुके है कि उत्तर देश और उत्तर बिहार की बाढ का पानी गगा मे आता है, जिस का असर पटना की बाढ पर पडा है। उत्तर बिहार के लोग साल मे तीन तीन बार बाढ से प्रभावित हुए है। पटना के लिए उन की हमदर्दी तो जरूर है, लेकिन उन को आशका है कि उत्तर बिहार को भुला दिया गया है। मैं समझता हू कि पटना की बाढ बिहार के लिए वरदान बन जाये, अगर सरकार इस बारे मे जग जाये। और इस समस्या का मूल निदान कर सके। उत्तर बिहार के नागरिक भी इसी देश के नागरिक है। वे साल मे तीन बार बाढ से और दो बार सूखे से पीडित होते है। जो नदियो हिमालय से पानी ला कर बाढ पैदा करती है, वही वही नदिया खेतो का पानी समुद्र मे ले जाकर सूखा पैदा करती हैं।

पिछले तीन सालों मे बाढ के कारण बहुत बर्बादी हुई है। मिट्टी के काम की जो योजना आ रही है, उस का आधा पैसा बीच में ही गायब हो जायेगा। चूंकि हम भुक्त भोगी है, इस लिए हम यह बात खुल कर कहना चाहते है।

कोसी पर बड़ाह क्षेत्र के पास एक बहुद्देशीय डैम के लिए योजना बनी थी, जिस से 18 लाख किलोवाट बिजली और 40 लाख एकड भूमि की सिचाई की व्यवस्था होती और साथ ही बाढ के नियंत्रण मे सहायता मिलती। उस समय इस योजना को इस लिए टाल दिया गया कि इस से विद्युत और सिचाई की जितनी क्षमता उत्पन्न होगी देश मे उसका इस्तेमाल ही हो सकेगा। इसी प्रकार कमला नदी पर सीरा पानी मे बैराज बना कर। सिचाई और बाढ नियंत्रण की व्यवस्था करने का सुझाव था। इन दोनो योजनाओ का नेपाल से सम्बन्ध है। इसके अलावा बागमन नदी जहा फुटहिल के पास उतरती है, वहा बैराज बना कर सिचाई और बाढ नियंत्रण की व्यवस्था करने की योजना थी। इस बारे मे पैमाइश हो चुका है और स्कीम्ज बन चुकी है, लेकिन इस को इस आधार पर टाल दिया गया कि विद्युत और सिचाई की पूरी क्षमता का उपयोग नही नही हो पायेगा, हालाकि वह अनुमान भी गलत था।

मैं यह जानना चाहता हू कि क्या सरकार इन योजनाओ को कार्यान्वित करने का विचार करती है, ताकि बिहार, उत्तर प्रदेश और सारे देश का विद्युत सकट दूर हो, देश को सस्ती बिजली मिल सके और बाढ नियंत्रण का भी इन्तजाम हो जाये।

श्री केदार नाथ सिंह : यह सही है कि उत्तर बिहार में जो बाढ आती है, वह उन्ही नदियों से आती है, जो नेपाल से चलती है। कोसी नदी पर बडाह क्षेत्र में एक डैम बनाने की बात थी। उस को अभी छोडा नही गया है। मगर उस में कुछ दिक्कते हैं। इस बारे मे जो सर्वे किया गया, उस की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार वह डैम वहा मुनासिब नही था। इस लिए इस बारे में फिर और इनवेस्टीगेशन करने की बात है। कमला और बागमती नदिया भी जहा से निकलती हैं उस का सीधा सम्बन्ध नेपाल से है।

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा : मत्री महोदय का 3 दिसम्बर, का पत्र मेरे पास है। उस मे कहा गया है कि विद्युत की खपत न हो सकने के कारण इस को रोक दिया गया है। तो फिर मुनासिब न होने की बात कहा से चली आई ?

श्री केदार नाथ सिंह : इन नदियों पर बैराज बनाने की बात है। उस का सीधा सम्बन्ध नेपाल मे है। उस के लिए बातचीत शुरु हो गई है। नेपाल सरकार से बातचीत करने के लिए एक बडी हाई टीम वहा जा रही है। जब तक नेपाल सरकार से इस मसले पर कोई समझौता नही हो जाता है तब तक इस बारे मे कुछ नही कहा जा सकता है। नेपाल गवर्नमेंट इसके इनवेस्टीगेशन के लिए सहमत हो गई है। दोनो सरकारों के एक्सपर्ट मिल कर यह इनवेस्टीगेशन करेंगे।

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा : इस सवाल को ले कर नेपाल और हमारे बीच मे कई बार उलझन पैदा हो चुकी है। इस लिए आम तौर से तो मैं ऐसी बात यहा नही कहना चाहता, लेकिन फिर भी मै कहने के लिए बाध्य हू। क्या यह सही है कि जयनगर से मिरचैया तक कमला तटबध को बढाने की योजना थी, जिस के बारे मे भारत और नेपाल के बीच मे समझौता भी हो चुका था ? इस योजना को कार्यान्वित करने से नेपाल और भारत दोनो देशो मे बाढ मे बचाव होगा। लेकिन हमारे यहा एक गुप्त आदेश दे कर इस तटबध को बढाने के काम को रोक दिया गया।

अगर मंत्री महोदय इस से यह इन्कार करेंगे, तो मैं उस आदेश की प्रतिलिपि सदन मे उपस्थित कर दूंगा। आज स्थिति यह है कि नेपाल के सैकडो गांवो को बाढ़ से नुक्सान पहुचता है। वह पानी तिब्बत में नही जाता है, बल्कि हमारे यहां आता है। इस तटबध को न बढ़ा कर ऐसी बेवकूफी की जा रही है, जिस से सभी तटबध और नहरे बेकार हो जाती हैं। प्रश्न यह है कि भारत और नेपाल के लिखित समझौते का उल्लघन क्यो किया जा रहा है। नेपाल के लोग लिखित करार के इस उल्लघन से बहुत क्षुब्ध है। इस करार को हुए एक दो बरस नही बल्कि पद्रह बरस हो चुके है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हू कि क्या बडाह क्षेत्र का वह डैम इस बातचीत म शामिल है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मत्री महोदय ने इस का जवाब दे दिया है।

श्री केदार नाथ सिंह इसके लिए नोटिस की जरूरत है।

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा : अध्यक्ष महादय यह प्रश्न भारत-नपाल बातचीत से सम्बन्धित है। मै उसी के बारे मे पूछ रहा हू।

अध्यक्ष महोदय मत्री महादय के पास इस समय यह सूचना नही है। वह नोटिस मांग रहे है।

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा मैं नोटिस क्या दू ? यह प्रश्न इसी से सम्बन्धित है।

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA Incompetence of the Minister should not be covered up in it This is quite a big thing which is going on They have not read their file and they do not know what they are talking about

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री (श्री जगजीवन राम) : नेपाल के साथ जो चर्चा होने जा रही है, वह किसी खास एक प्रोजेक्ट के सम्बन्ध मे नही है, बल्कि आम तौर से सभी नदियों के बारे मे नेपाल और भारत को क्या करना है, उस के सम्बन्ध में है। जहा तक एक-एक योजना का सवाल है, जब उन के सम्बन्ध मे प्रश्न किये जायेंगे, तो विस्तार के साथ उन का जवाब दिया जायेगा।

श्री नवल किशोर सिंह : इस प्रश्न का क्षेत्र बहुत विशद है। यह केवल कमला और कोसी से सम्बन्धित नही है। उत्तर बिहार की नदियो म पिछले कुछ वर्षों से बहुत अधिक बाढ आने लगी है। इसके दो मुख्य कारण बताये जाते है। एक कारण तो यह है कि उन नदियो की सतह बहुत ऊची हो गई है। उस का कारण यह है कि नेपाल म भू-सरक्षण का कार्य बिल्कुल नही होता है। भारत-नेपाल सीमा पर वहा जितने पेड थे उन म से अधिकाश काट दिये गये है और मिट्टी के पहाड ढह ढह कर उत्तर बिहार की नदिया म भर गये है। अगर यह व्यवस्था जारी रही तो कोई भी डैम बैराज या तटबध किसी काम का नही होगा। मै यह जानना चाहता हू कि क्या सरकार नपाल सरकार के साथ बातचीत करते हुए इस बात पर जोर डालने जा रही है कि नपाल मे, और खासकर भारत-नेपाल सीमा पर, भू-सरक्षण का कार्य बढाया जाये ताकि यह जो मिट्टी के कट कर नदियो की तह मे भरत का सथान है इस का समुचित समाधान निकल सके।

श्री जगजीवन राम नेपाल मे भू-सरक्षण तो उस का एक अग मात्र होगा। दोनो देशो को सभी प्रश्नो पर विशाल दृष्टिकोण से विचार करना होगा कि किस तरह से नदियो के पानी का उपयोग किया जाये, जिस से बाढ का नियंत्रण हो सके सिचाई की व्यवस्था की जा सके

और विद्युत् का उत्पादन किया जा सके। उसके लिए जितने काम आवश्यक होंगे, उन सभी पर विचार करना आवश्यक होगा।

श्री परिपूर्णानन्द पैन्यूली : यह प्रश्न केवल बिहार से सम्बन्धित नहीं है। उत्तर प्रदेश में भी कुछ नदियां ऐसी हैं, जो नेपाल में से आती हैं। मेरी जानकारी में नेपाल के साथ पूणत: समझौता न हो सकने का एक कारण धनाभाव है। क्या भारत सरकार और नेपाल सरकार दोनों ने सम्मिलित रूप से वर्ल्ड बैंक से आग्रह किया है कि इन परियोजनाओं को कार्यान्वित करने के लिए वर्ल्ड बैंक से पैसा लिया जाये, यदि हां, तो क्या वह पैसा मिलने वाला है ताकि पांचवी पंच-वर्षीय योजना मे हम इन बहुद्देशीय योजनाओं को कार्यान्वित कर सक ?

श्री जगजीवन राम : सदस्य महोदय गाड़ी को घोड़े के आगे रख रहे हैं। मैंने यह तो नही कहा कि यह केवल बिहार का मामला है। मैने कहा है कि पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार दोनो मे जितनी नदिया बहती हैं, उन मे से अधिकाश नेपाल से निकलती है। इन सब के बारे मे हमे बाते करनी है, मात्र किसी विशेष योजना के सम्बन्ध मे हम बाते नही कर रहे हैं।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Wheat from Canada

*86. SHRI DHAMANKAR.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether wheat worth about Rs. 37.8 crores is being offered to us by the Canadian Government under its International Food Aid Programme, during 1975-76;

(b) if so, at what cost and whether the assistance is to be in form of grant; and

(c) whether any conditions are attached to this aid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (c). An arrangement has been reached with the Government if Canada on the 28th November, 1975, under which the Government of Canada will make available to India wheat worth approximately 45.2 million Canadian dollars (about Rs. 40 crores) in the form of a grant, under their International Development Assistance programme for 1975-76. Against this, a quantity of 2.52 lakh tonnes of wheat valued at Canadian $43.43 millions (about 38.2 crores) has already been received. The supplies of wheat were received on FOB basis, India bearing the cost of sea transportation.

Setting up of Sanskrit University

*88. SHRI VASANT SATHE:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state: (a) whether there is a proposal to set up a Sanskrit University with Central funds in Western part of the country during the 5th Plan;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra has made a proposal to this effect; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Ministry thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE IN THE DE-

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) and (c). No such proposal has been received from the Government of Maharashtra or any other State Government.

(b) and (d). Do not arise.

Grant for Flood Relief to Bihar

*91. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Bihar has sought a grant of Rs. 175 crores for flood relief in the State; and

(b) if so, the decision of the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) The Government of Bihar requested the Central Government for assistance in respect of flood relief amounting to Rs. 179 46 crores including Rs 27 crores as loan item.

(b) On the recommendation of Central Study Team the Government of India has sanctioned an Advance Plan Assistance of Rs. 9 75 crores to Bihar for flood relief during 1975-76. A short term loan of Rs. 19 crores has also been sanctioned to the State Government for Agricultural inputs during the current financial year.

Removal of Unauthorised Structures in Delhi

*92. SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI:
SHRI HARI SINGH:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unauthorised structures removed in Delhi recently;

(b) number of people totally uprooted from these areas; and

(c) number of people who have been given alternate accommodation?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): (a) to (c). During the last six months about 43,000 unauthorised structures, residential as well as commercial, have been cleared by the Delhi Development Authority and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. Of these 43,000 about 32,500 were residential structures and the rest were commercial.

2 About 30,000 residential squatters have been allotted alternative plots in the Jhuggi Jhompri colonies and J. J. tenements built by the DDA or in the DDA's Housing Estates. In the case of the rest 2500 their tenements were found to be unoccupied or occupied just prior to the clearance operation. Hence their cases were not considered for re-settlement.

3. Of about 10,500 commercial squatters, 7,200 were removed by the DDA and 3,300 were removed by Municipal Corporation, Delhi. Of the commercial squatters removed by DDA, about 4000 were provided in DDA's re-development/re-location schemes; and 1000 in the commercial pockets of the J J colonies. Another 500 commercial squatters who were evicted have also in the meantime purchased plots in auction held by the DDA for the commercial purpose.

Of the remaining 1700 commercial squatters, these were found to be ineligible in so far as they did not come within the scope of the re-development scheme of the DDA or who may have started their business immediately prior to the clearance operation.

4. Of about 3,300 commercial squatters removed by Municipal Corporation Delhi, about 1500 who were eligible have been provided with alternative sites and the rest were ineligible because they were not paying Tehbazari dues regularly or they were not able to establish their claims for carrying on their trades or they refused the offer of alternative sites.

5. It may be mentioned here that the entire operation of clearance of unauthorised structures in Delhi is essentially carried out for the purpose of securing orderly development according to Master Plan and the purpose of this operation is to resettle the evicted people to areas conforming to Master Plan land uses so that maximum relief is available to the poorer section of the society and the funds spent on the jhuggi dwellers may yield the best possible results. The areas in which the clearance operation is carried out are required for the execution of development schemes and provision of community facilities namely construction of roads, schools, parks, housing estates etc.

New variety of rice developed at I.A.R.I.

*93 SHRI RAJDEO SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high-yielding variety of basmati rice which matures in 95 days has been evolved by rice-breeders at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Delhi called 'Pusa' 33; and

(b) whether this variety has got other properties of *basmati* like taste and food value?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION: (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The Plant breeders at IARI have evolved a high yielding variety of rice which combines in it some of the characteristics of the traditional *basmati* varieties found in India. Thus, the new variety named Pusa-33 has fine slender grains, and basmati aroma. The variety matures in 98 to 105 days depending on the agro-climatic zones of its cultivation.

(b) Like the traditional *basmati* varieties the new variety has fine grains and also a characteristic aroma. Its cooking quality improves on storage as in the case of the traditional *basmati* varieties. However, it falls short of the traditional *basmati* varieties in some of its quality characteristics. For example the aroma on cooking is not as strong nor is the grain elongation as great as in the traditional varieties. In its food value it compares well with the traditional varieties.

मद्य निषेध का फिर से लागू किया जाना

*94. **श्री मूल चन्द डागा :** क्या शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण और संस्कृति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या देश में मद्य-निषेध को फिर से लागू करने की कोई योजना सरकार ने बनाई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी मुख्य बातें क्या है; और

(ग) क्या इसे क्रियान्वित करने के लिए कोई कार्यवाही शुरू की गई है ?

शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण तथा संस्कृति मंत्री (प्रो० एस० नूरुल हसन) : (क) से (ग) केन्द्रीय मद्य निषेध समिति की सिफारिशों पर भारत सरकार शराब की खपत कम करने और पूर्ण मद्य निषेध लागू करने के आधार तैयार करने की दृष्टि से अनेक उपायों पर विचार करती आ रही है। हाल के भाषण में प्रधान मंत्री ने यह अनुभव किया कि इस उद्देश्य की प्रगति तभी सम्भव है जबकि पर्याप्त सामाजिक दबाव का वातावरण

तैयार किया जाए और जनजीवन के सभी पहलुओं पर एक राष्ट्रव्यापी आन्दोलन चलाया जाए। इसलिए सरकार ने 2 अक्टूबर, 1975 से प्रारम्भ होने वाले न्यूनतम कार्यक्रम की क्रियान्वति के लिए निम्नलिखित उपायों का अनुसरण करने के लिए निश्चय किया है।

1. शराब से सम्बन्धित विज्ञापनों और लोक प्रेरणाओं को बन्द करना।

2. सार्वजनिक स्थानों जैसे होटलों, रेस्टोरेन्टो, क्लबो तथा सार्वजनिक समारोहों मे शराब का पीना बन्द करना।

3 औद्योगिक सिंचाई और दूसरी विकास परियोजनाओं के नजदीक शराब की दुकानो पर पाबन्दी लगाना ताकि मजदूरों को शराब पीने से दूर रखा जाये।

4 राजपथो और कस्बो एवम् गाव के रिहाइशी क्षेत्रो मे शराब की दुकानो का न खोला जाना और ना ही शिक्षक सस्थानों, धार्मिक स्थानो और मजदूर बस्तियो के नजदीक शराब की दुकान खोलने की अनुमति देना।

5 वेतन के दिना को शुष्क दिवस घोषित करना।

6. मोटर गाडी चालको और पायलेटो पर शराब पीने पर कडी पाबन्दी लगाना और नियमो के उलघन करने पर काफी लम्बे समय के लिए उनके लाइसेंसो को रद्द करके दड देना।

7. सभी वर्गों के सरकारी कर्मचारियो को जिसमे सरकारी उद्योगो के कर्मचारी भी शामिल है खुले-आम शराब पीने पर रोक लगाना और कार्य पर रहते हुए शराब पीने पर कडी सजा देना

8. केवल सत्वाहन शुल्क में वृद्धि करने के उद्देश्य से देश के किसी विभाग में शराब की कोई भी नई दुकान ना खोलना।

9. शराब के लिए अतिरिक्त क्षमता के सृजन या वर्तमान क्षमता के विस्तार के लिए कोई लाइसेंस मंजूर न करना।

10. अपराधी को सजा देने के लिए वर्तमान कानून को और भी अधिक कडा बनाना। जहा कही आवश्यक हो वहां विशेष चलते फिरते पुलिस के दस्तों का आयोजन करना।

11 शराब की बुराई के खिलाफ सरकारी और गैर सरकारी एजेंसीयो द्वारा व्यापक और सगठित प्रचार करना।

12. लोक नेताओं द्वारा अपना उदाहरण पेश करके जनता की विचारधारा को बदलना।

13 सरकार द्वारा कोई भी शराब की नई दुकान नही खोली जाएगी।

Distribution of Fertilisers

*95 SHRI B S BHAURA Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) how far was it possible to distribute fertilizers to cultivators during 1975; and

(b) whether Government could sell the fertilizers at fixed prices in Punjab, U P., Andhra and Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB

P. SHINDE): (a) The availability of fertilisers in 1975 was adequated to meet the demand. A total quantity of 26.58 lakh tonnes of nutrients was distributed from January to November 1975.

(b) The prices of Urea, Ammonium Sulphate and Calcium Ammonium Nitrate are statutorily controlled and both indegenous and imported material are sold at fixed prices all over the country. All imported fertilisers are sold at uniform prices fixed by the Central all over the country.

Fishing Harbours in Maharashtra

*96. SHRI SHANKER RAO SAVANT Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) names of fishing harbours in Maharashtra which are likely to be taken up during Fifth Plan and at what cost;

(b) when the work on each harbour is likely to start; and

(c) when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (c). Sanctions have been issued in June 1975 for the construction of fishing harbours at Uttam, Karanja Thal, Datiwara and Mulgoan. The construction of these harbours is expected to commence shortly. Although firm dates of completion of the construction have not been indicated by the State Government, it is envisaged that the construction would be completed during the course of the Fifth Plan.

In addition a proposal for the construction of a fishing harbour in Sassoon Dock is under active consideration. The construction work at Sassoon Dock fishing harbour is expected to be completed in 3 years. Project reports are being revised in respect of Ratnagiri and pre-investment surveys are being carried out at Agardanda for location of fishing harbours. The possibility of sanctioning these sites will be considered, subject to establishing technical and economic feasibility as and when final reports are received.

Financial Assistance to Landless Labourers

*97. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to provide financial assistance to the landless labourers and other rural poor sections in the country; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) No direct financial assistance is gven by the Central Government to landless labourers and other rural poor in the country. However to a limited extent, short term loans, known as takavi are given to the weaker sections of the rural community by the State Governments.

The Small Farmers Development Agencies/Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers Development Agencies allow subsidies to identified small farms beneficiaries small farmers upto 25 per cent and marginal farmers and agricultural labourers upto 33-1/3 per cent of the investment cost for various programmes like minor irrigation, land development, soil conservation, animal hus-

bandry, etc. through financing institutions which make available the balance portion of investment as loan. Subsidy at 25 per cent is provided for the subsidiary occupations under schemes like dairy, poultry, piggery, sheep and goat rearing, fisheries, etc. to small farmers and at 33-1/3 per cent to marginal farmers and agricultural labourers. Landless agricultural labourers are given the first priority in the case of above subsidiary occupations.

The loaning procedures and policies of both cooperatives and commercial banks have been under continuous review in order to assist the weaker sections of the farming community to obtain credit with greater facilities.

Special concessions like liberalised share capital requirements in the case of cooperative credit, loans without insistence on mortgage security lower margin and longer repayment schedules will continue during the Fifth Plan period to enable the weaker sections to obtain credit with greater facility.

Tribunal on Narmada Waters Issue

*98. SHRI P. G MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state·

(a) whether the Tribunal on the Narmada Waters Dispute between Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh is carrying on its task as per schedule;

(b) when will the hearings on both sides be completed; and

(c) how soon the decision of the Tribunal will be arrived at and announced by the Tribunal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) While every effort is being made by the Tribunal to complete its work as expeditiously as possible, it would not be possible to indicate when the adjudication proceedings will be completed and report given

Take-over of Sugar Mills in U.P. and Bihar

*99. SHRI S M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a final decision has since been taken to take over sugar mills in U.P. and Bihar; and

(b) if not, when a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) It will take some more time to take a final decision on the issue of nationalisation which is a complex matter having financial and administrative implications

Procurement of Rice

*100. SHRI D K. PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total procurement of rice this year; and

(b) what is the total rice procurement in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) 26.85 lakh tonnes as per information available upto 9th January, 1976.

(b) 37.166 tonnes as per information available upto 9th January, 1976.

मध्य प्रदेश में सोयाबीन

426. **डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय** : क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश और राजस्थान में सोयाबीन का उचित मूल्य न मिलने तथा बिक्री की सुविधा न होने के कारण वहां किसान को सोयाबीन की खेती करने के लिए प्रोत्साहन नहीं मिल रहा है;

(ख) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में सोयाबीन का भारी स्टाक जमा हो गया है और वहां उसका कोई खरीदार नहीं है, और

(ग) स सम्बन्ध मे सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री प्रभुदास पटेल) : (क) से (ग) : मध्य प्रदेश में सोयाबीन के मामले मे विपणन सम्बन्धी कठिनाईया चहुमुखी उत्कृष्ठ कृषि उत्पादन का परिणाम मालूम होती है। इसमे तिलहन भी शामिल है। इसके फलस्वरूप मूल्यों में आम गिरावट आई है जिससे सोयाबीन पर भी असर पडा है। भारत सरकार इस समस्या के प्रति जागरुक है और चालु वर्ष के दौरान इस फसल के उत्पादन की बिक्री करने का उपाय कर रही है। राजस्थान राज्य मे सोयाबीन की खेती का विकास नही हुआ है ।

Pension to M.Ps.

427. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States who have introduced pensions to the members of the State Legislatures;

(b) whether there is any proposal to give pensions to the Members of Parliament; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): (a) According to the information available, the Government of Tamil Nadu have introduced a scheme of pension to ex-Members of their State Legislature.

(b) and (c). The question of granting pension to ex-Members of Parliament is currently under the consideration of the Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament. The Committee has yet to arrive at a decision in the matter

Central Government Employees sharing Government accommodation on rent payment basis in Delhi

428. SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central Government employees working in Delhi who have not been allotted residential quarters; and

(b) whether some Central Government employees who have not been provided wih Government accommodation are sharing on rent payment basis with the other Central Government employees allotted with Government accommodation?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH) (a) The number of Central Government employees waiting for allotment of general pool accommodatiin in Delhi is 57,168.

(b) Yes, allottees of Government accommodation may share it with

other Government employees and employees of semi-Government oaganisations/Corporations, etc. Government have no information whether the sharers pay any rent to the allottees.

Lower Damodar Scheme

429. SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased ti state:

(a) total amount sanctioned upto date for the Lower Damodar Scheme and the particulars of the work done upto date and the amount of money spent;

(b) date fixed for completion of the scheme, and

(c) the number of villages likely to be benefited after the completion of the scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) The Lower Damodar Scheme has been planned to be imlemented in 3 phases So far only the first phase of the scheme comprising the excavation of the Amta Channel and some of its tributary drains, a link channel between Madaria and Dakatia Khals, and construction and remodelling of existing bridges, sluices etc estmated to cost Rs. 6.82 crores have been approved for implementation by the Planning Commission in April, 1971. Phases II and III of the scheme estimated to cost Rs 27.64 crores are yet to be approved.

Flood Control forms parts of the State Plan and therefore the funds for the implementation of the schemes have to be provided for by the State Government in their plans. However, the Central Government in the wake of severe floods during 1971 provided financing assistance of Rs. 11 crores to the State Government of West Bengal in the last two years of the 4th Plan, to supplement the provision made in the State plan for completing the work on certain priority flood control works. Lower Damodar Scheme was one of the priority schemes.

It is reported that tht work of resectioning of the Amta Channel and also Madariakhal, Ronarkhal, Dakatiakhal, including diversion and link channels have been completed.

The expenditure incurred on the scheme up to the end of the 4th Plan was Rs 6.11 crores. The expenditure during 1974-75 is Rs. 1.26 crores and the anticipated expenditure for 1975-76 is Rs 0.80 crores. The combined outlay for all the three phases of the Lower Damodar Scheme proposed by the State Government for 1976-77 is Rs. 5 50 crores.

(b) Phase I is programmed to be completed by June, 1976.

(c) The scheme on completion will benefit an area of 1.2 lakh hectares (723 04 sq. miles) in the districts of Burdwan, Hooghly and Howrah. Information about the number of villages to be benefited by the scheme is not available.

Central guidelines on formation of District Farmers Cooperative Society

430 SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION e pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any Central guidelines to advise the States to form farmers co-operative societies in different districts and Taluks; and

(b) steps being taken to help farmers in the marketing facilities of their produce in a systematic manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) In pursuance of the recommendations of the National Commission on Agriculture in their

Interim Report on Credit, Services for Small and Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers, detailed guidelines were issued by Government of India, in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India, for organising Farmers' Service Societies), along with model bye-laws of the Farmers Service Cooperatives, to the State Governments/Union Territories in 1973. The guidelines cover, *inter alia*, the areas where they can be organised, minimum population coverage, composition of membership, reservation of seats on the board of management for the weaker sections, nature of the financing agency which can finance the Societies, technical staff support to be provided, etc. These Societies are to cover a minimum population of 10,000 and going upto a full Community Development block and are expected to disburse all types of credit required, supply inputs including fertilisers, arrange for processing and marketing, etc.

The State Governments/Union Territories have also been advised, from time to time, about the manner of organising the Farmers Service Societies, the priorities to be given in the selection of areas for setting up such societies etc.

(b) There are about 3300 primary cooperative marketing societies covering almost all the important secondary markets in the country. These marketing cooperatives provide facilities to the farmers for marketing of their agricultural produce besides supplying their requirements for inputs. Efforts are being made to strengthen and streamline the marketing cooperative at various levels in order to improve their services to the farmers. The cooperative are also being increasingly involved in the procurement of foodgrains, cotton and jute by the public sector Corporations.

A scheme for financial assistance to the selected regulated markets was taken up during the Fourth Five Year Plan and is being continued during the Fifth Plan. The scheme envisages financial assistance to selected regulated markets in the country in order to safeguard the interests of growers and enable them to realise better and remunerative price for their produce by providing proper marketing facilities.

Meeting of Central Advisory Board of Education

431. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the report of the meeting of Central Advisory Board of Education held in November, 1975;

(b) action taken by Government thereon;

(c) whether the Board has given a suggestion for imposing some special cess on the general public for education; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) Government have received copies of the speeches delivered and resolutions passed at the meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education held in November, 1975.

(b) The resolutions of the Board are under examination.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The suggesetions will be brought to the notice of the state governments who are concerned in the matter.

Procurement price of Paddy and Rice and actual procurement

432. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the rates fixed in each State for procurement of paddy and rice during the present season; and

(b) State-wise break-up of procurement done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). Two Statements (Statement I & II) are attached. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-16097/76].

Import of Foodgrains from U.S.A.

433. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) quantity of foodgrains already imported or booked for import from the U.S. during 1975 and also during 1976;

(b) whether his attention has been drawn to recent U.S. Press reports on federal investigations, against Bungi Corporation and some other US grain exporting firms, into the fraud amounting to crores of rupees committed on the importing countries including India;

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) whether a few of these firms, including the Bungi Corporation, were charged by the Government of India, with under-invoicing and other economic offences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) In 1975, a total quantity of about 4.71 million tonnes of foodgrains was imported from the U.S.A. It is neither possible at this stage nor is it in public interest to indicate the quantum of foodgrains that may have to be imported from U.S.A. during 1976.

(b) and (c). Government have seen Press reports to the effect that a lower level employee of M/s. Bunge Corporation, New York, has deposed that the Corporation was resorting to short weighment of foodgrain ships bound for India and African countries from their elevator at Destrehan. The Indian Embassy, Washington, has been asked to ascertain the position.

(d) The question of taking action against this Corporation or other suppliers will be examined on receipt of complete information.

Detection of bogus Ration Cards in Delhi

434. SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO:
SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether many bogus ration cards were detected in Delhi during the last six months as a result of door-to-door checking; and

(b) if so, the action taken against the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Delhi Administration has reported that as a result of checking, the card holders found having bogus units are being proceeded against, and cards found bogus have been cancelled.

Central team to Orissa after floods

435. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central Team had visited Orissa State after the devastating flood of August, 1975;

(b) if so, the demands presented by the State Government to the Central Team; and

(c) steps taken to tackle the problems faced by the State Government as a result of the flood havocs?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHU PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State Government requested for the Central assistance of Rs. 22.06 Crores.

(c) The Government of India have sanctioned an advance Plan assistance of Rs. 7.55 crores to Orissa for 1975-76 for flood relief. A short term loan of Rs. 7 00 crores has also been sanctioned for agricultural inputs for the year 1975-76. Allotment of foodgrains from the Central Pool was enhanced from 43,000 tonnes for August 1975 to 58,000 tonnes for September and October, 1975.

Chambal Ravine Reclamation Schemes

436. SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY. Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank Team has studied Chambal Ravine reclamation schemes;

(b) if so, the decisions so far taken and results achieved; and

(c) whether a World Bank Team with Mr. Grawford as its leader is studying the said problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) While appraising the Command Area Development Project relating to Chambal Irrigation System in Madhya Pradesh, the World Bank Team looked into the problem of progressive gully type arosion moving upstream in these ravines endangering canals and roads and causing loss to valuable farm lands.

(b) They appreciated the need for some form of economic protective action and have suggested to take up a pilot scheme in a length of 50 K.M. around the perimeter for developing least cost methods of tackling the problem. In the Chambal Command Area Development Project of Madhya Pradesh which an agreement has been entered into with the IDA on 20th June, 1975, a provision of Rs. 32 lakhs has been made for such pilot studies.

(c) No, Sir.

भूमि की अधिकतम सीमा सम्बन्धी कानून

437. **श्री विभूति मिश्र :**

श्री प्रियरंजन दास मुन्शी

क्या **कृषि और सिंचाई** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या विभिन राज्यो सरकारों द्वारा बनाये गये भूमि की अधिकतम सीमा सम्बन्धी कानूनों में अनेक अडचने पाई गई है जिसके परिणामस्वरूप प्रधान मंत्री के 21 सूत्री कार्यक्रम क्रियान्वित करने मे कठिनाईयों का सामना करना पड रहा है ; और

(ख) यदि हां तो क्या सरकार का विचार संविधान में आवश्यक संशोधन

करने के बाद भूमि की अधिकतम सीमा सम्बन्धी कानूनों को क्रियान्वित करने का है ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मन्त्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री प्रभु दास पटेल) :

(क) और (ख). कुछ राज्यों में भूमि की अधिकतम सीमा संबंधी कानून के कुछ उपबंधों को या तो समाप्त कर दिया गया है या न्यायलय में चुनौती दी गई है। जिसके फलस्वरूप उनके क्रियान्वयन में कुछ अड़चनें आई हैं। अब तक अधिकांश भूमि की अधिकतम सीमा संबंधी कानूनों को संविधान की नवीं अनुसूची में रखा गया है। इन कानूनों को शीघ्र क्रियान्वित करने के लिए उचित उपायों की जांच की जा रही है।

ककोरी शहीद शिक्षा समिति, शाहजहांपुर, उत्तर प्रदेश को सहायता

438. **श्री जितेन्द्र प्रसाद** : क्या **कृषि और सिंचाई** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) ककोरी शहीद शिक्षा समिति, शाहजहांपुर, उत्तर प्रदेश को केन्द्रीय सरकार से कृषि कार्यों के लिए कितना ऋण और अनुदान तथा मशीनरी प्राप्त हुई है;

(ख) क्या इस राशि का दुरूपयोग किया गया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां)

(क) से (ग). जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Sale of Quarters in Mukund Nagar, Poona

439. SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to sell the quarters in Mukundnagar at Poona; and

(b) whether Government are considering to sell more quarters to the occupants of the quarters in the year 1976?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH): (a) and (b). Government are considering to sell 216 quarters constructed in 1962 in Mukandnagar, Poona. No. more quarters have been constructed there after 1962.

Supply of Text books, Note books to students

440. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) broad outlines of the steps taken by Government to supply text books, note books etc. to students at cheaper rates as per 20 point programme of Prime Minister;

(b) whether Government are aware that in the name of supplying at cheaper rates, the quality of books produced by NCERT has gone down and the binding and stitchings do not last more than a few months; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to improve the position?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) One of the major

components in determining the price of a text book or a note book is the cost of paper. In order to supply text books and exercise books to students at cheaper rates, the Government of India have arranged to allocate 1,20,000 tonnes of white printing paper annually for the educational sector at a concessional rate of Rs. 2,750/- per tonne as against the market rate of Rs. 4,000 to Rs. 6,000 per tonne for other varieties which are used for printing books etc. This arrangement has brought down the price of text and exercise books.

The prices of exercise books have been brought down and are being standardised to bring about a uniformity in their prices in the country.

(b) The quality of the books produced by the NCERT has not gone down. On the other hand, the NCERT has won several awards for the excellence in printing and designing. The binding of the books is quite strong.

(c) Does not arise.

Production and Procurement of Rice and increase in quota to West Bengal and Kerala

441. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total production of rice in the country for 1975;

(b) how far Government could fulfil its targets of procurement of rice; and

(c) in view of the bumper crop in rice production whether Government are considering to increase rice quota to West Bengal and Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) It will take sometime to finalise the estimates of total production of rice in 1975. However, on the basis of crop prospects and various other indicators, it is assessed that rice production in 1975 would be substantially higher than in 1974.

(b) As reported on 9th January, 1976, a quantity of 26.85 lakh tonnes of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) has been procured, against the target of procurement of 46.35 lakh tonnes or rice fixed for Kharif Marketing Season 1975-76.

(c) Keeping in view the overall availability of rice in the Central pool, relative needs of other deficit States, market availability and the need to build up a buffer stock and other relevant factors, maximum possible allotments of rice are being made to West Bengal and Kerala every month for meeting the reasonable requirements of the public distribution system.

Funds for CMDA

442. SHRI H N. MUKERJEE: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has sanctioned Rs. 1.5 crores for C.M.D.A.; and

(b) how far this money will meet the construction demand of C.M.D.A.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This will meet part of C.M.D.A. requirements, for their development programme during 1975-76.

Security, Discipline and expansion of Educational facilities

443. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government have taken to ensure the security, discipline and expansion of educational facilities to the students by making structural changes in the wake of the declaration of emergency, and

(b) whether any effort has been made to enforce discipline among student community in the country through reforms in the Universities?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) and (b) Government were feeling deeply concerned at the growing climate of indiscipline, violence, intimidation and threat in educational institutions as a result of which standards were going down schedules of teaching and examinations were being disturbed and students and their parents were being subjected to serious hardship

In the wake of the Emergency, the general climate in the educational institutions has improved appreciably and seriousness has re-entered the atmosphere of academic institutions State Governments have taken the necessary steps to protect educational authorities and ensure security to the academic community. Efforts are also being made to involve students fully in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

As part of the 20-Point Economic Programme of the Prime Minister, energetic steps have been taken to bring down the cost of text books, general reading material and exercise books for the students. Essential supplies are being made available to students' hostels, approved lodgings and other institutions Book Banks have been established in very large number of schools, colleges and universities.

The Central Government is in continuous touch with the State Governments in connection with these matters.

The UGC have taken a number of steps to introduce reforms in university education.

Expert Committee Report on Subarnarekha River, Orissa

444. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expert Committee report on Subarnarekha River, Orissa to control floods has been finalised;

(b) whether Orissa Government has agreed to contribute its share;

(c) whether the "Straight Cut" Plan to sea has been approved and finalised after model study; and

(d) whether drainage work will commence in 1976?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH) (a) and (b) The Expert Committee on Subarnarekha River constituted by the Government of India in August 1972, had finalised and submitted its report in August, 1973. A number of recommendations were fully accepted by the State Government and some with reservations It is understood that the Orissa Government is having bilateral discussions with Bihar and West Bengal Governments on some of the recommendations A view on the sharing of the cost is yet to be taken by the Orissa Government.

(c) Various alternative proposals for the straight cut to sea are under study by the State Government in

consultation with the Central Water Commission and have yet to be finalised.

(d) It is understood that the detail schemes for various drainage works are being prepared by the State Government. One such scheme was received at the Centre which after examination has been returned to the State Government with certain observations. The work in the field can only start after the scheme has been approved.

Loss due to Floods in Punjab

445 SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss Punjab has suffered due to floods during 1975;

(b) whether Centre has given any aid; and

(c) if so, how much?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) According to the reports received from the State Government of Punjab, the total estimated damage on account of floods of 1975 is about Rs. 10.05 crores as detailed below:—

	(Rs in crores)
1. Value of crops damaged	4.03
2. Value of houses damaged	5.56
3. Damage to Public utilities	0.46
Total:	10.05

(b) and (c). No assistance has been released by the Centre to the State Government.

Improvement in atmosphere of University Campus

446. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether with the promulgation of emergency there has been a distinct improvement in the atmosphere of the University campus of the Centrally administered Universities and students are now able to devote better attention to their education; and

(b) whether the number of students absenting themselves from the classes has also decreased?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF S. NURUL HASAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Regularisation of colonies in Delhi

447. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was the policy of Government to regularise colonies in Delhi which had come up by the 1st February, 1967; and

(b) whether in the recent months quite a large number of houses in Arjun Nagar, South Delhi colony, were demolished in respect of which the registry was effected as early as 1961?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH): (a) This is under consideration of Government.

(b) No, Sir. Only some houses of post 1961 origin and constructed unauthorisedly have been demolished. Alternate accommodation has, however, been provided.

बुद्ध दर्शन महाविद्यालय, लेह पर व्यय

448. **श्री कुशोक बाकुला** : क्या शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण तथा संस्कृति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सरकार द्वारा बुद्ध दर्शन महाविद्यालय (कालेज आफ बुद्धिस्ट फिलासफी), लेह पर प्रति वर्ष कितना धन व्यय किया जा रहा है; और

(ख) विद्यार्थियों को छात्र वृत्ति के रूप में प्रति मास कितनी राशि दी जा रही है और छात्रावास के लिए क्या प्रबन्ध किए गए हैं ?

शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्रालय तथा संस्कृति विभाग में उपमंत्री (श्री डी० पी० यादव) : (क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान बुद्ध दर्शन विद्यालय, लेह को निम्नलिखित अनुदान दिए गए थे :—

1973–74	1974–75	1975–76
रुपये	पये	रुपये
3,00,000	3,72,000	4,00,000

(ख) प्रत्येक छात्र को 80 रुपये की मासिक वृत्तिका दी जाती है और इस समय किराए के भवनों मे रहते हैं।

Fodder and Seed Farm in Assam

449 SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are having a proposal to set up a fodder and seed production farm in the State of Assam; and

(b) when it is likely to be started?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to establish a centrally administered Fodder Seed Production Farm in Barpeta, Assam.

(b) This farm is to be set up in collaboration with the Government of Australia. The draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India and the Government of Australia has already been drawn up and is beiag examined. The farm is likely to start operations after the agreement is finalised, in consultation with the Government of Assam

Arrears outstanding against Lord Krishna Sugar Mills, Saharanpur

450 SHRI MULKI RAJ SAINI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of arrears outstanding against the Lord Krishna Sugar Mills, Saharanpur on account of cost of sugarcane;

(b) the years to which these arrears pertain; and

(c) arrangements made by Government for the payment of the arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The Government of Uttar Pradesh have reported that as on 30-11-1975, the cane price arrears against the Lord Krishna Sugar Mills amounted to Rs. 90.81 lakhs.

(b) The break-up of the arrears season-wise is as under:—

Season	Amount in Lakh Rs.
1971-72	8·04
1972-73	29·38
1973-74	Nil
1974-75	53·39

(c) The District Magistrate, Saharanpur, has earmarked 90 per cent of the advances available to the factory from the Bank on the production of the current crushing season to be set apart for payment of current cane price as well as arrears of cane price in terms of provisions of U P. Sugarcane (Regulation of Supply and Purchase) Rules, 1954.

Vanaspati and Sugar, Jam Samples received for analysis

451. SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) number of vanaspati and sugar samples received by the Government from various factories during 1974-75;

(b) how many of these samples were analysed by the Government and were found below standard; and

(c) what action has been taken against erring factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) 3102 samples of Vanaspati and 2528 sugar samples were collected from vanaspati and sugar factories respectively during 1974-75.

(b) and (c). All the 3102 vanaspati samples were analysed. Of these 97 vanaspati samples pertaining to 33 vanaspati factories were found to be not conforming to the prescribed standards. Warning has been issued to 25 factories and prosecution proceedings have been initiated against 2 vanaspati factories through the State Governments. Action against the remaining 6 defaulting factories is also being taken.

All the 2528 sugar samples were analysed. Of these, 96 sugar samples of 23 sugar factories were found to be below the prescribed standards. Prosecution proceedings have been initiated against them through the State Governments 391 sugar samples of 109 factories are under process of final grading

New pay scales for Lecturers

452 SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state the names of the States which have so far introduced the new pay scales announced by the Central Government and approved by the University Grants Commission for the lecturers and the financial implications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S NURUL HASAN): The Governments of Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal Maharashtra, Punjab and Manipur have issued orders implementing the scheme of revised pay scales. Detailed financial implications for the entire period for which Central assistance will be made available have not been intimated by them.

2. The Governments of Bihar, Haryana, Rajasthan and Tripura have accepted the revised scales of pay in principle but have not issued orders of implementation.

3. The Government of Kerala have introduced lower scales of pay with

certain conditions which are at variance with the conditions attached with the revised scales of pay. The Government of Andhra Pradesh have issued orders for revision of scales of pay of college teachers. These are, however, under examination.

4. The Government of Orissa, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya and Jammu and Kashmir have submitted their proposals which are under examination

5. The remaining State Governments have not intimated their decision in the matter so far.

Difficulties faced by Housing Societies in Delhi

453. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the news-item which appeared in The Hindustan Times' dated the 20th November, 1975 to the effect that one hundred and sixty group housing societies with a membership of 25,000 are finding it difficult to build houses; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereto and steps taken to remove the difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) It is for the societies to arrange for the funds for construction. The eligible cooperative societies can approach Life Insurance Corporation and Housing and Urban Development Corporation for financial assistance.

Weed growth in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka

454. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a special type of weed (South America) is creating menace in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka; and

(b) if so, steps taken by Government to eradicate this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, the Government is aware that a special type of weed popularly called South African Weed is a common weed in Paddy fields in Kerala. Its spread to Tamil Nadu and Karnataka on a wide scale has not been reported This South African Weed (not South American) is known as Water fern and the scientific name is Salvinia auriculata Aublet.

(b) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research held an inter-ministerial meeting to finalise National Plans for eradication of pernicious weeds and this weed was identified as one of these pernicious weeds As a result of this meeting a Sub-Committee was formed to finalise an Action Plan for eradication and control of weeds.

World Bank aid for minor irrigation schemes in Faizabad, U.P.

455 SHRI R. K. SINHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) amount received from the World Bank for minor irrigation schemes in Faizabad Division of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the amount utilised for the purpose so far and the progress made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ

KHAN): (a) The Uttar Pradesh Agricultural Credit Project involving the total outlay of Rs. 54.30 crores with I.D.A. assistance of Rs. 28.50 crores to be routed through Government of India Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation has been sanctioned. The Project covers 14 Eastern Districts of Uttar Pradesh including Faizabad Against the above total assistance from I.D.A. Rs. 9.27 crores have been claimed till December, 1975 by Government of India. Agricultural Refinance Development Corporation will be providing these funds through financing agencies *i.e.*, the Land Development Banks and the participating commercial banks in these districts.

In so far as Faizabad Division is concerned Rs. 12.20 crores in proposed to be provided through Land Development Bank and 6 participating commercial banks for the entire project period *i.e.* 1973—76.

(b) The Land Development Banks have disbursed Rs. 4.99 crores and the participating commercial banks estimated disbursement is Rs 0.82 crores upto November, 1975 in 5 out of 6 districts of Faizabad Division under the above project for Minor irrigation works.

Effect on consumers of incentives to sugar factories

456. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY:
SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state how far a higher percentage of levy-free sugar to new sugar factories and expansion projects in existing units and also concessions on excise duty would help sugarcane growers in U.P. as well as consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): The incentives are meant primarily to render the newly licensed sugar factories and expansion in the existing ones to become economically viable in the face of the high cost of plant and machinery involved and thereby facilitate their early commissioning. The cane growers in the area will benefit indirectly by being able to sell their cane against additional requirements of the new production capacity and similarly the consumers from the resulting additional production of sugar.

Committee on Rural Unemployment

457. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the Committeee on Rural Unemployment, under-employment among agricultural workers has been increasing; and

(b) if so, the suggestions of the Committee in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). A Study Team on Rural Employment and not a Committee, was constituted with a view to suggesting necessary measures for creating employment opportunities in rural areas. The Study Team have submitted its report which is now under consideration of the Government.

Long Term Programme initiated during International Women's Year

453. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn a long term programme for betterment of the lot of women which was initiated in 1975, to be fulfilled in the coming decade; and

(b) if so, the salient feature thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) The matter is under consideration.

Difficulties faced by paddy and sugarcane producers

459 SHRI P NARASIMHA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government are aware of the serious difficulties felt by paddy and sugarcane producers in Andhra Pradesh and in several other States due to either lack of adequate purchase arrangements or failure to provide at least cost-price for their produce,

(b) whether several representations have been made in this behalf to Government; and

(c) Government's reactions thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE): (a) to (c). Adequate arrangements have been made by the procuring agencies in Andhra Pradesh and in other States for making price support purchases of paddy wherever necessary The Andhra Pradesh Government have also reported that at present there were no complaints from farmers getting prices less than procurement prices of paddy.

In the case of sugarcane, Government have fixed only the statutory minimum price payable by the sugar factories, the actual prices are settled mutually between the factories and the cane growers. The factories generally pay higher cane prices under the policy of partial control.

The Andhra Pradesh Sugarcane Growers' Association had asked for an upward revision in the minimum cane price during 1975-76 On careful consideration, Government have decided not to make any revision in the minimum price already fixed for sugarcane

Allotment of land and houses to Harijans and weaker section in Delhi and U P

460 SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) number of houses and plots of land have been distributed to various persons in Delhi and U P after the emergency in the country, and

(b) number of plots of land and houses allotted to Harijans and weaker section out of it?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K RAGHU RAMAIAH) (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the Delhi Administration, 2988 house-sites have been allotted to Harijans and weaker sections in the villages of Delhi, after the promulgation of emergency in the country Besides, the Delhi Development Authority have allotted 2930 flats and 7925 plots during the period from 1st June, 1975 to 31st December, 1975 Out of these, 677 flats and about 1025 plots have been allotted to persons of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

After the proclamation of the emergency, 99308 housesites have been allotted by the Government of U P. to landless families. How many of the allottees are Harijans or belong to weaker sections is not known.

Requirement of Fertilisers in Punjab State

461. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement of fertilisers of Punjab State during 1974-75 and 1975-76; and

(b) the quantity of fertilisers were given to Punjab during the above period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) and (b). The net assessed requirement of fertilisers of Punjab State during 1974-75 and 1975-76 and the supplies made to Punjab during those years are as follows:—

(In 000' nutrient tonnes)

Year	Net assessed Requirements				Supplies				Remarks
	N	P	K	Total	N	P	K	Total	
1974-75 . .	283·972	86 064	21·576	391·612	222·126	57·538	12 247	291·90	
1975 (Kharif) .	228 070	40·030	1·000	269·100	146 954*	30·350*	5·778*	183·08	

*Supplies from Feb. 75—Nov. 75

The supplies could not be made to the level of the net assessed requirements during earlier part of 1974 owing-availability of fertilisers. The supplies could not be made to the level of the net assessed requirements during the later part of 1974 and during 1975 owing to lack of demand.

Squatters on D D.A. Land in Janakpuri, New Delhi

462 SHRI HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some large tracts of land on the Delhi Development Authority in A-2 and A-3 Blocks of Janakpuri, Pankha Road, New Delhi are under the unauthorised occupation of squatters;

(b) whether the D D A. has made no effort so far to clear the encroachments and to develop these lands earmarked for housing, purposes roads and schools; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken in the near future for the removal of the encroachments; the development of the land and the resettlement of the squatters who might be affected?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: (a) Abuout 1 bigha and 9 biswas in Blocks A-2 and A-3 near village Asalatpur in Janakpuri are under encroachment.

(b) and (c). The possession of the land is yet to be handed over by Land Acquisition Collector to D D.A. Question of taking any action to clear the encroachments and resettlement of squatters does not arise at this stage.

गन्ने की उत्पादन लागत

463. **डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय :** क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या रासायनिक उर्वरकों के बढ़े हुये मूल्यों, सिंचाई दरों में वृद्धि तथा अन्य कृषि उपकरणों के मूल्यों में वृद्धि से गन्ने की उत्पादन लागत में वृद्धि हुई है और गन्ने का वर्तमान निर्धारित

मूल्य से किसानो को भारी हानि होने की सम्भावना है तथा इससे गन्ने का उत्पादन प्रभावित हो सकता है, और

(ख) यदि हा, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) :

(क) और (ख) पिछले कुछेक वर्षों मे विभिन्न आदानो के मूल्या मे वृद्धि होने के कारण गन्ने की उत्पादन लागत मे भी वृद्धि हुई है ? तथापि, 1975 के दौरान कई एक आदानो के मूल्य न्यूनाधिक स्थिर रहे हैं। इस वर्ष के दौरान, पहले जुलाई मे और फिर दिसम्बर मे दो बार उर्वरको के मूल्यो मे कमी की गई है। बैलों को खिलाई जाने वाली खली और चारे के मूल्य गिर गए है जिससे बैलो को रखने की लागत मे भी कमी आयी है। किसानो को चीनी फैक्ट्रियों को दिए जा रहे गन्ने के मूल्य सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित किए गए मूल्यो मे सामान्यतया अधिक मिल रहा है।

कृषक को उचित मूल्य

464. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :** क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेगे कि

(क) क्या इस समय देश में विभिन्न राज्यों मे मोटे अनाजों के मूल्यों में पर्याप्त अन्तर दिखाई देता है,

(ख) यदि हा तो क्या सरकार द्वारा इस बारे मे कोई कार्यवाही की जा रही है, और

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि जब कृषक अपने उत्पाद बाजार में बेचने के लिये लाता है तो तब उनका विक्रय मूल्य कम होता है और खाद्य निगम उन्ही उत्पादों को ऊचे मूल्यों पर बेचता है और यदि हां तो इनमें कितना अन्तर रहता है ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णासाहिब पी० शिन्दे) ।

(क) और (ख) हालाकि मोटे अनाजों के मूल्य प्रत्येक राज्य में भिन्न-भिन्न होते है, फिर भी उचित औसत किस्म के अनाजों के मूल्य अधिप्राप्ति मूल्यों से सामान्य तया ऊचे रहे है। जहां कही भी मूल्य अधिप्राप्ति मूल्य से कम आने लगते हैं, सरकारी एजेंसियो द्वारा अधिप्राप्ति मूल्यों पर साहाय्य खरीदारी की जाती है ताकि किसानों के हितों की सुरक्षा की जा सके।

(ग) भारतीय खाद्य निगम भारत सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित किए गए अधिप्राप्ति मूल्यों पर ही खाद्यान्नों की खरीदारी करता है। निर्गम मूल्य अधिक होते है क्योंकि इसमें भारतीय खाद्य निगम द्वारा अधिप्राप्ति और वितरण पर किए गए प्रासगिक खर्चे भी शामिल है। एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा है जिसमे अधिप्राप्ति और निर्गम मूल्य दिए गए है। [**ग्रन्थालय में रखा गया। देखिये** सख्या एल टी–10098/76]

पांचवीं योजना के दौरान डेरी विकास पर व्यय

465. **डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय :** क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेगे कि.

(क) वर्ष 1975–76 के दौरान भारत में डेरी विकास पर कितना व्यय हुआ है ,

(ख) पाचवी पचवर्षीय योजना के लिये इस उद्देश्य हेतु कितनी राशि नियत की गई है,

(ग) इस समय देश मे दूध की प्रति व्यक्ति उपलब्धता कितनी है, और

(घ) पाचवी पचवर्षीय योजना तक दूध की यह उपलब्धता कितनी बढ़ जाएगी ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मन्त्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री प्रभुदास पटेल) :

(क) पशु-पालन और डेरी उद्योग के विकास के लिए 1975–76 के दौरान 67 77 करोड रु० के परिव्यय की व्यवस्था की गई है । वास्तविक खर्च के आकडे वित्तीय वर्ष समाप्त होने पर ही उपलब्ध हो सकेगे ।

(ख) पाचवी पचवर्षीय योजना के मसौदे के अनुसार पशु-पालन और डेरी उद्योग के विकास के लिए अनतिक रूप मे 540 135 करोड रु० के परिव्यय का नियतन किया गया है ।

(ग) 1973–74 मे जोकि पाचवी योजना का आधार वर्ष था, देश म प्रति व्यक्ति प्रति दिन 110 ग्राम दूध उपलब्ध होने का अनुमान था । इस समय कोई ऐसी प्रणाली नही है जिसके द्वारा योजनावधि में अलग-अलग वर्षो के उत्पादन के आकडों का मोटे तौर पर अनुमान लगाया जा सके ।

(घ) पाचवी पचवर्षीय योजना के अन्त तक दूध की प्रति व्यक्ति प्रति दिन उपलब्धि बढकर 123 8 ग्राम हो जाने की आशा है।

भारतीय खाद्य निगम द्वारा निर्यात के लिए खरीदा गया चावल

466. **डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पाँडेय :** क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेगे कि

(क) भारतीय खाद्य निगम इस वर्ष (75–76) कितना बासमती चावल निर्यात हेतु खरीदेगा , और

(ख) यह किस मूल्य पर खरीदा जायेगा ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अण्णासाहिब पी० शिन्दे) :

(क) और (ख) भारतीय खाद्य निगम द्वारा इस वर्ष निर्यात के लिए कितनी मात्रा मे बासमती चावल खरीदा जाएगा, उसकी इस समय बताना व्यवहार्य नही है । बासमती की खरीदारी किस दर पर की जाएगी, यह प्रश्न अभी सरकार के विचाराधीन है ।

Package Programme for Export of Basmati Rice

468 SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government have formulated a package programme to boost the export of Basmati rice,

(b) if so, the quantity and value of Basmati rice exported so far during 1975-1976 and likely achievement of the target for 1975-76;

(c) how does the export during the current year compare with the same period during the previous year, and

(d) whether the Government are considering further boosting of export of Basmati rice?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The export of basmati ricc during April-December, 1975 were 3975 tonnes, valued at Rs. 2.26 crores, as compared to 29,722 tonnes, valued at Rs. 17.26 crores, during the corresponding period of last year.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Price of Onion

469. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether onion production in the country has dropped by 30 to 40 per cent this year;

(b) whether export of onions from the country has resulted in prohibitive price rise of this commodity; and

(c) steps taken by Government to keep the price-level steady in the interest of the consumer society?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MNISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) Official estimates on all India basis are not prepared in the case of Onions. However, indications are that the crop harvested in November was affected, to some extent, by unfavourable weather conditions but the crop to be harvested shortly is expected to be good.

(b) The export of onions so far which barely 5 per cent of the estimated total production, is not likely to have made a significant impact on internal prices.

(c) The folliwnig steps have been taken:—

(i) Even though the export is small, it has been stopped temporarily.

(ii) National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation has made arrangements for retail sale of onions by bringing the produce fom procurement centres.

उर्वरकों की मांग

470. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या 1974–75 की अपेक्षा वर्ष 1975–76 में (दिसम्बर 1975तक) रासायनिक उर्वरकों का उपयोग घटा है; और

(ख) क्या इसका कृषि उत्पादन पर विपरीत प्रभाव पड़ा है ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मन्त्रालय में उप-मन्त्री (श्री प्रभुदास पटेल) :

(क) और (ख): खरीफ 1974 की तुलना में खरीफ 1975 के दौरान उर्वरकों की खपत के आंकड़ों से नाइट्रोजनयुक्त उर्वरकों की खपत बढ़ने और फास्फेटयुक्त तथा पोटाशयुक्त उर्वरकों की खपत गिरने

का पता चलता है। ये आंकडे नीचे दिए गए हैं।

वर्ष	एन
1974 . .	731.28
1975 . .	756.14

पी	के	एन+पी+के
(हजार मीटरी टनों में)		
233 67	161.65	1126.60
174.79	107.50	1038.43

जहां तक रबी का संबंध है, रबी, 1975 की वास्तविक खपत के आंकडे अभी उपलब्ध नहीं है क्योंकि यह मौसम अभी चल रहा है। फास्फेट और पोटाश युक्त उर्वरकों की कम खपत का खरीफ 1975 के कृषि उत्पादन पर क्या असर पडा, इसका अंदाजा लगाना अभी सम्भव नहीं है।

New Education System

471 DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) from which year the new education system will be introduced in all the States and Union Territories and whether this will create any difficulties;

(b) what are the reactions of the Universities to the new education system proposed; and

(c) the expected advantages out of the new education system as compared to the earlier education system?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P YADAV): (a) The matter is primarily the concern of the State Governments. The majority of the States and Union Territories have already introduced the new pattern and the remaining States are considering the matter seriously. The Central Advisory Board of Education on which all State Education Ministers are represented has adopted a resolution recommending that the new pattern of School Education should be introduced throughout the country before the end of the Fifth Five Year Plan period. No difficulties are likely to arise by the introduction of the new education system.

(b) The recent Conference of Vice-Chancellors (September 30, October, 1, 1975) accepted the new education syster introducing 10+2+3 pattern.

(c) Some of the advantages that are likely to accrue on the implementation of the new pattern of education would be;

(i) the school stage will be strengthened and its standards will improve because of its lengthening to 12 years and because of the inclusion, within it, of the intermediate stage which will bring in better teachers and facilities

(ii) The students will be mature enough, when they enter class XI, to make a tentative decision about their future career.

(iii) The pressure on the University system is likely to be reduced as a sizeable number of students would be entering vocations at the higher secondary stage instead of aimlessly pursuing higher education.

(iv) The standards in higher education will also improve as the students going into the University stream will now be

better prepared and more mature.

(v) The three year degree course would be a definite improvement on the existing two year course as it will be possible to meet the demands of specialisation as well as broad-based general and inter-disciplinary education and to make adequate provision for practical experience, field work and project-orienting studies.

(vi) The products of both the school system and University system would be more employable and will be more useful citizens.

National Policy on Youth and Children

472 SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a national policy on Youth and Children about their respective role in the country has been envisaged as per our national ideals; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the policy?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D P YADAV): (a) and (b). The national policy for children has been formulated in Government of India Resolution No. F.1-14/74-CDD, dated August 22, 1974 which was laid on the Table of the House on August 26, 1974. As for youth, no similar policy document has been prepared but the government are carrying out various youth programmes for student as well as non-student youth

These include National Service Scheme to provide the students opportunities for involvement in constructive developmental activities; Nehru Yuvak Kendras for involving non-student youth in nation-building activities; broad basing of games and sports; expansion of non-formal education programmes; National Integration Samitis and camps for propagating the idea of oneness; N.C.C. for developing qualities of leadership, character and comradeship; Yuvak Mandals and Extension Training programmes for training the rural youth in modern agricultural technology.

Smuggling of Wheat from surplus States

473. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the unscrupulous traders and antisocial elements are making fast buck by smuggling wheat from the surplus States to the deficit States where it is dearer by Rs. 80/- to Rs 100 per quantal;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to plug the loop-holes; and

(c) how far the formation of single state zone has enabled the authorities to procure more wheat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (c) No case of large-scale smuggling of wheat from surplus to deficit States has been brought to the notice of Government The State Governments are keeping constant vigil against any violations of inter-Zonal Movement Control Orders and prompt and stringent action is taken, wherever necessary. The concerned enforcement agencies in the States have been strengthened. The formation of single State Wheat Zones has helped in maximising the procurement of wheat.

Setting up of Fishing Harbours in Kerala, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh

474 SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank has proposed to finance the setting up of new

fishing harbours in Kerala, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) reactions of State Government and Central Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. After a reconnaisance visit by a team to the different maritime States the World Bank sent a preparation Mission to assist in the preparation of project reports in selected States. After a preliminary examination of the preparedness of the State proposals, the Mission took up the preparation of feasibility reports in respect of integrated fishery projects including construction of fishing harbours in Kerala, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh. The proposals are being examined by Government.

काकोरी शिक्षा समिति, शाहजहांपुर

475. **श्री जितेन्द्र प्रसाद** : क्या **कृषि और सिंचाई** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) काकोरी शहीद शिक्षा समिति, शाहजहापुर, उत्तर प्रदेश की क्षुधा मुक्ति अभियान निधि से कितनी धनराशि तथा मशीनें दी गई है और क्या इस धनराशि तथा इन मशीनों को उस उपयोग में नहीं लाया गया है जिसके लिये ये दी गई थी ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो क्या सरकार ने इसकी जाच कराई है और यदि हा, तो इसके क्या परिणाम निकले हैं ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री प्रभुदास पटेल) : (क) भूख मुक्ति अभियान ने, जिसे अब भारतीय लोक विकास कार्यक्रम के नाम से पुकारा जाता है और जो कृषि तथा सिंचाई मंत्रालय के अन्तर्गत एक रजिस्टर्ड समिति है, कृषि के विकास तथा और कृषकों के उत्पादन और प्रशिक्षण शिविरों और विचार-विमर्श दलों के आयोजन के लिए काकोरी शिक्षा समिति शाहजहापुर (उ० प्र०) को अगस्त 1968 में 1.32 लाख रु० की धनराशि दी थी । यह सहायता निम्नलिखित कार्यों के लिए मजूरी की गई थी :—

(1) **कृषि कार्य का विकास**

	रु०
(क) उपकरणों सहित ट्रैक्टरों के लिए	70,000
(ख) शेडों के लिए	10,000
(ग) सिंचाई की नहरों के लिए	10,000
(घ) कृषि आदानों की खरीद के लिए	10,000
(ङ) नलकूपों के लिए	20,000
	1,20,000

(2) कृषक उत्पादन और प्रशिक्षण शिवरों के लिए 3,600 रु०

(3) कर्मचारियों के लिए 8,400 रु०

कुल 1,32,000 रु०

उपयुक्त स्वीकृत अनुदान में से दो ट्रैक्टर खरीदने के लिए अगस्त 1968 में प्रथम किस्त 50,000 रु० की और ट्रैक्टर से चालित उपकरणों के लिए 20,000रु० और कृषि आदानों के लिए 10,000 रु० की दुसरी किस्त सितम्बर 1968 में दी गई थी ।

चूंकि परियोजना ने कोई संतोषजनक प्रगति नहीं की इसलिए आगे और धनराशि देना रोक दिया था।

मशीनरी और कृषि आदान खरीदे गए थे, परन्तु ये फार्म के विकास के लिए पूरी तरह से प्रयोग में नहीं लाए गये थे जिसके लिए इनकी व्यवस्था की गई थी।

(ख) जी, हां, जांच की गई थी और इसके निम्नलिखित परिणाम निकले थे –

(1) वास्तव में परियोजना कार्य के लिए चुना गया क्षेत्र पिछड़ा था और इसके लिए लोक विकास कार्यक्रम की सहायता की आवश्यकता थी। यदि परियोजना का ठीक तरह से क्रियान्वयन किया जाता तो इसका काफी प्रभाव पड़ता।

(2) परियोजना को चलाने के लिए उचित प्रबंध नहीं था और उसका हिसाब-किताब भी ठीक नहीं था।

(3) दो ट्रैक्टर, जो उपकरणों की मुख्य मद थी, खरीदे गये और ये उपयोग के लिए उपलब्ध थे।

जांच समिति ने निम्नलिखित सिफारिशें की –

(1) भारतीय लोक विकास कार्यक्रम द्वारा काकोरी शिक्षा समिति, शाहजहांपुर को आगे कोई अनुदान न दिया जाये।

(2) भारतीय लोक विकास कार्यक्रम के अनुदान से खरीदे गये ट्रैक्टरों तथा अन्य उपकरणों के उपयोग नियन्त्रण प्रोजेक्ट राइट अप में निर्धारित परियोजना समिति को करना चाहिये।

(3) समिति ट्रैक्टरों तथा उपकरणों के उपयोग के लिये उचित लेखा रखेगी।

इसके पश्चात् काकोरी शिक्षा समिति, शाहजहांपुर के अध्यक्ष से अनुरोध किया गया था कि वे परियोजना समिति की बैठक बुलाये और परियोजना के कार्य को सुचारु रूप से चलाने तथा भारतीय लोक विकास कार्यक्रम के अनुदान से खरीदे गये उपकरणों का उपयोग करने के लिये कदम उठायें। उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार से भी अनुरोध किया गया है कि वे उपयुक्त निर्णयों को क्रियान्वित करने के लिए काकोरी शहीद शिक्षा समिति, शाहजहांपुर से इस मामले को उठायें।

Price of Coconut Oil

476 SHRI S A MURUGANANTHAM
SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to fix the floor price for coconut oil, and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL) (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

Price of Onion

477 SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM:

SHRI N K SANGHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the traders have cornered almost entire stock of onions

of the country which has resulted in a big crisis in the market for onions; and

(b) if so, the factors responsible for the same and steps taken by the Government against this crisis in onion market?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) and (b). Prices of onions witnessed a sharp rise generally during November-December, 1975 The main factors responsible for rise in prices were: poor crop in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu and improved prospects of exports following the failure of onion crop in Egypt and the Netherlands which led to speculative activities in the trade.

To check the rise in prices, the Government canalised exports of onions from 4th December, 1975, only through the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation who were directed not to undertake the exports for the time being. As a result of this measure and because of the arrival of the second onion crop in the market, there has been an appreciable decline in the prices of onions.

Utilisation of Godavari Waters

478. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IIRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he met the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Orissa in order to settle amicably the dispute regarding the utilisation of Godavari waters by the States concerned; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the meeting?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) With a view to reaching a consensus for a minimum programme of construction of new projects in Godavari Basin pending the Tribunal's decision, the Union Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation called a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the concerned States in July, 1975. Following the decisions taken, two meetings at officers level were held and the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh discussed the various issues involved with the Chief Ministers of Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra and reached bilateral agreements. A meeting was also held between the Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa at the request of the Union Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, and a bilteral agreement was reached. The final accord on the Godavari was reached at the meeting taken by the Union Minister with the Chief Ministers of all the five States on 19th December, 1975

(b) The broad features of the agreement are as follows·

(1) In the Manjira Sub-Basin Karnataka can use 14.27 TMC and Maharashtra 22 TMC for new projects. Andhra Pradesh can construct Singur project with gross capacity of 30 TMC and withdraw 4 TMC for drinking water supply to Hyderabad city.

(2) In the Main Godavari, Maharashtra can use all waters upstream of Jayakwadi and Siddheswar Dams.

(3) Downstream of Jayakwadi, Sidheswar and Nizamsagar Dams and upto Pochampad, Maharashtra can use 60 TMC and the balance can be used by Andhra Pradesh.

(4) Downstream of Pochampad, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra can

use 300 TMC each and Orissa can use 200 TMC of Godavari waters.

(5) It is agreed to take up the following projects as joint ventures:—

(i) Inchampalli by Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

(ii) Lendi, Lower Penganga and Pranhita by Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.

(iii) Projects in Sabari Sub-Basin by Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.

(6) It is agreed to take up the following new projects.—

(i) Andhra Pradesh—Taliperu.

(ii) Orissa—Upper Indravati.

(iii) Madhya Pradesh—Bodhghat

Foodgrains seized under Essential Commodities Act

479. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state the total quantity of foodgrains seized by Government in each State under the Essential Commodities Act during the last six months in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): The information has been called for and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as received

Vice-Chancellors Conference

480. SHRI R S. PANDEY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether two days Vice-Chancellors Conference was held in Delhi in the last week of September, 1975; and

(b) if so, the decision arrived at the Conference?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached.

Statement

A Conference of Vice-Chancellors of Indian Universities was held on 30th September and 1st October, 1975 under the joint auspices of the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare and the University Grants Commission. The main recommendations of the Conference are as follows:—

(1) The Government of India may place at the disposal of the University Grants Commission sufficient funds to enable the Commission to pay maintenance grants for specified activities to the State Universities as envisaged under Section 12(c) of the UGC Act. More funds should be placed at the disposal of the Commission for its plan development programmes also

(2) Hostels for students should not be treated as non-functional buildings for purposes of temporary ban imposed by the Government of India on construction of buildings.

(3) In order that the collection of books in Book Banks could be augmented from time to time, the UGC may assist colleges with additional grants during the plan period. The scope of Book Banks may be extended to postgraduate and professional courses.

(4) The State Governments may be persuaded to implement the revised scales of pay in universities and colleges in all faculties including Faculties of Agriculture, Engineering and Medicine.

(5) The State Government may set a Coordination Committee of Vice-Chancellors of Universities with a representative of the UGC associated with it for purposes of better coordination.

(6) The UGC may finance on 100 per cent basis some teaching posts for providing compensatory teaching in colleges and universities for the benefit of backward students.

(7) The main emphasis on restructuring of courses should be on updating and modernising of all courses and on developing a teaching-learning process which has a measure of congruance with individual and social needs of students not in one subject but in all teaching.

(8) It will be necessary to provide financial assistance to the universities for switching over to 10+2+3 pattern especially those universities which have at present a two-year degree course. In the course of the next two years, the UGC may bring together the universities for bringing about enrichment on content in the first degree course and for ensuring a measure of comparability and equivalence of standards.

(9) The UGC may set up Joint Consultative Committees with the All India Medical Council, ICAR, NCERT and the Bar Council to study the implication of 10+2+3 pattern on profesaional eourses.

(10) The Conference while expressing general agreement with the concept of autonomous colleges suggested the following guidelines for identifying colleges for autonomous status:

(i) A long record of excellent performance including evidence of educational experimentation and innovation;

(ii) Adequate facilities libraries, laboratories and staff;

(iii) Having a high academic standard and administratively viable; and

(iv) Good teacher-pupil ratio.

(11) Greater importance should be given to sports and games activities in university life and UGC should earmark funds for sports and games for universities and special grants be made availab'e for employing coaches and sports facilities be organised in such a way that they are made available to a major section of student community. Each university should set up Students Centres where students can participate in a variety of cultural and recreational activities and funds for this purpose may be provided by the UGC Youth festivals may be organised on university and inter-university basis.

Five copies of the proceedings of the Conference of Vice-Chancellors have been placed in the Library of the Parliament House.

Publicity Work at Regional Centres of Indian Council of Agricultural Research

481. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the publicity work at re-

gional Centres of Indian Council of Agricultural Research are very poor; and

(b) if so, action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Adequate publicity is being given to all the important findings and events of the ICAR Research Institutes in the regions concerned through newspapers, journals, radio and T.V. No further action is called for.

Sea-Food

482. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated potential of sea-food marine-catch of the country in 1975-76, as against the actual marine-catch in 1974-75 in terms of quantity and value; and

(b) the anticipated export earnings from the marine products during the current financial year as compared to the previous year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) As against an estimated marine fish catch of 15.41 lakh tonnes during 1974-75 valued at about Rs. 217 crores the 1975-76 marine fish catch is estimated to be in the region of 16.12 lakh tonnes valued at Rs. 260 crores.

(b) The export earnings from marine products during 1975-76 is estimated to exceed Rs. 100 crores as compared to an earning of Rs. 68.41 crores in 1974-75.

गेहूं की वसूली का लक्ष्य तथा वास्तविक वसूली

483. **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री:** क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने गेहूं वसूली का कोई लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका राज्यवार ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) सरकार अब तक राज्यवार कितना-कितना गेहूं वसूल करने में समर्थ हो सकी है; और

(घ) सरकार ने लक्ष्य की पूर्ति के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की है और उसका क्या परिणाम निकला है ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अण्णासाहिब पी० शिन्दे) : (क) जी हां । रबी विपणन मौसम 1975-76 के लिए गेहूं की अधिप्राप्ति हेतु लक्ष्य निर्धारित किए गए थे ।

(ख) और (ग). एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा है । [**ग्रन्थालय में रखा गया देखिये संख्या** LT टी-10099/76]

(घ) केन्द्रीय सरकार के खाते को छोड़कर, गेहूं और गेहूं से बने पदार्थों के सभी अंतर्राज्यी संचलन को रोक कर अधिप्राप्ति-कार्य अधिक से अधिक बढ़ा दिया गया है । प्रत्येक राज/केन्द्र शासित प्रदेश के अन्दर गेहूं की बिक्री को विनियमित करने के लिए राज्य सरकारों/केन्द्र शासित प्रदेश के प्रशासनों ने भी उपयुक्त प्रशासनिक कानूनी उपाय किए हैं ।

खाद्यान्नों के मूल्यों में कमी

484. **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री :** क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या गत कुछ महीनों में चावल गेहूं तथा अन्य खाद्यान्नों के मूल्यों में पर्याप्त कमी हो जाने के कारण किसानों में बड़ा असन्तोष है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किसानों को उनके उत्पादों के उचित मूल्य सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सरकार ने क्या उपाय किये हैं ;

(ग) क्या किसानों द्वारा प्रयोग में लाई जाने वाली वस्तुओं के मल्यों में पर्याप्त कमी नही हुई है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो किसानों को उर्वरक कपडा, पानी आदि की सप्लाई उचित मूल्यों पर सुनिश्चित कराने के लिये सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मन्त्रालय में उप-मन्त्री (श्री प्रभुदास पटेल) : (क) और (ख). यह सही है कि चावल, गेहूं और अन्य खाद्य पदार्थों के मूल्यों में गत कुछ महीनों में गिरावट आई है, किन्तु अच्छे औसत किस्म के विभिन्न अनाजों के मूल्य आमतौर से सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित वसूली मूल्यों से ऊचें हैं। यह उल्लेखनीय है कि सरकर की नीति यह है कि वसली मूल्यों पर बिक्री के लिए पेशकश की गई पूरी मात्रा में अनाजों की खरीद की जाय भारतीय खाद्य निगम और अन्य सार्वजनिक एजेंसियों ने इस प्रयोजन के लिए पर्याप्त व्यवस्था की है।

(ग) और (घ). उर्वरक के मूल्य, जो कि किसान द्वारा प्रयोग किया जाने वाला एक महत्वपूर्ण आदान है, आपातकाल की घोषणा के बाद दो बार कम किए गए थे। 18 जुलाई, 1975 से 7 से 8 प्रतिशत तक कमी की गई थी जबकि 1 दिसम्बर, 1975 से कुछ प्रमुख उर्वरकों के मामले में 3.3 से 13.96 प्रतिशत तक कमी की गई थी ।

तीन प्रमुख नाइट्रोजनयक्त उर्वरकों अर्थात् यूरिया, अमोनियम सल्फेट और कैल्सियम अमोनियम नाइट्रेट के अधिकतम खुदरा मूल्य उर्वरक (नियंत्रण) आदेश, 1957 के अन्तर्गत सांविधिक रूप से निर्धारित है। कुछ मामलों में उर्वरकों के मूल्य जानबूझकर बिना हानि लाभ के मूल्य स्तर से कम निर्धारित किए गये हैं। यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि बेईमान विक्रेता कमी का लाभ न उठा सकें, राज्य सरकारों को चोर बाजारी की रोक थाम करने और अन्य निवारक तथा दण्ड देने की कार्रवाई करने के पर्याप्त अधिकार दिए गए हैं ।

राष्ट्रीय बीज निगम ने गेहूं के बीजों के मूल्य भी कम कर दिए हैं। जहा तक पानी की दरों का सम्बन्ध है, प्रचलित प्रशुल्क में राजसहायता भी शामिल है ।

Distribution of Land

485. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI·
SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL:
SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI
SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY·
SHRI M RAM GOPAL REDDY:
SHRI D. K PANDA·

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether according the twenty point economic programme State Governments have distributed among Harijans, agricultural labourers and poor farmers the surplus land that has become available as a result of land ceiling, and

(b) if so, State-wise break-up of land acquired and the land so distributed up to 31st December, 1975 together with the number of beneficiaries, State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL)· (a) The State Governments have been distributing surplus land available from the implementation of the land ceiling laws to Harijans, agricultural labourers, poor farmers and other elegible categories of persons.

(b) On the basis of the latest available data, a statement has been prepared and placed on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10100/76].

गन्ने के मूल्य में वृद्धि करने की मांग

486. **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री** : क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गन्ने का मूल्य कम होने के कारण उसकी खेती मे कमी आ गई है

(ख) क्या किसानो की ओर से गन्ने का मूल्य 20 रु० प्रति क्विंटल निर्धारित किय जाने की मांग की जा रही है, और

(ग) यदि हां तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां):

(क) जी नहीं पिछले चार मौसमो के दौरान गन्ने के अंतर्गत क्षेत्र मे भारी वृद्धि होती है और 1975-76 मे भी गन्ने के अंतर्गत क्षेत्र के अखिल भारतीय प्रथम अनुमान मे 1974-75 के तदनुरूपी अनुमान की तुलना मे 5.7 प्रतिशत वृद्धि दिखायी गयी है।

(ख) देश भर मे गन्ना उत्पादको की ओर से विभिन्न मात्रा मे गन्ने के अधिक मूल्य देने के बारे मे मांगे की गई है।

(ग) सरकार का 1975-76 मौसम के लिए अधिसूचित सांविधिक न्यूनतम मूल्य के पुनरीक्षण करने का कोई इरादा नही है जिसे समूची आर्थिक स्थिति और काफी खपत वाली सभी आवश्यक जिन्सों के मूल्य बढने मे रोकने के बारे मे सरकार के निश्चय को ध्यान मे रखकर निर्धारित किया गया था। तथापि, आंशिक नियंत्रण की चल रही नीति के अधीन, फैक्ट्रिया राज्य सरकारों से परामर्श करके सामान्यतया गन्ने के अधिक मूल्य देती हैं।

Import of Foodgrains from U.S.A.

487 SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) how much import of food grains will be necessary for the current year; and

(b) whether we have already entered into an agreement with U.S.A. for importing foodgrains this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) The Government of India keeps under constant review the position regarding the need for foodgrain imports and makes purchases from abroad to the extent considered necessary after taking into account crop prospects internal availability, gap between internal availability and the requirement of the public distribution system, the need to create a reasonable size of buffer stock, foreign exchange resources, price trend in international market and other related factors. It is not possible at this stage nor is it desirable in public interest to indicate the total quantity that may have to be imported during 1976.

(b) No, Sir.

Completion of Rajasthan, Western Koshi and Gandak Canal Projects

488. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position with regard to the earliest completion of the Rajasthan, Western Koshi and Gandak canal projects;

(b) whether a suggestion for shifting the proposed alignment of Western Koshi Canal further north i.e. through the weir on river Kamala near Jayanagar has been examined; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereon.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDARNATH SINGH): (a) State-I of Rajasthan Canal Project would be substantially completed by 1976-77, except for lining of distribution system which would continue for next three years. The works on State-II of the project have just been taken up. The schedule for its completion is yet to be drawn up by the State Government. The project is likely to be completed in Sixth Plan subject to availability of funds.

Gandak Project in Uttar Pradesh is likely to be completed by the end of Fifth Plan. As for Gandak Project in Bihar, the Barrage, Eastern Main Canal upto RD 704, Saran Canal, branches and sub branches of Tirhut and Saran Canal Systems are almost complete. Work is in progress on the distributaries, minors and water courses. These works are expected to be completed by 1980-81.

The Western Kosi Canal Project in the Nepal portion is expected to be completed in 1978-79. Works on 37 km of the canal in Indian portion have been taken up and are in initial stages. As per programme drawn up by the State Government, works on canal system upto Kamla Balan crossing are to be completed by end of Fifth Plan.

(b) and (c). The proposal for shifting of Canal has been examined by the State Government and this has

not been considered economically feasible. However, the possibility of irrigating the area further north of present alignment is being examined.

Grants and Facilities to Mithila University

489. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has granted the necessary amounts and facilities to the Mithila University, Darbhanga and all the colleges including Kalidas Vidyapati Science College Benipatti; and

(b) if so, facts thereabout?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S NURUL HASAN): (a) and (b). According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the Commission in its meeting held on 29th September 1975, decided that the Lalit Narain Mithila University may be declared as an institution fit to receive grants from the Commission and other Central Government sources in terms of rules prescribed under Section 12-A of the U.G.C. Act provided the State Government gave an assurance with regard to (1) the establishment of adequate machinery for health and welfare of the students by the university; (2) adequate provision for giving maintenance grant for the normal functioning of the university; and

(3) provision of adequate funds by the State Government for buildings, equipment, books for library, hostels, staff quarters whose aggregate value will not be less than Rs 2 crores, alongwith developed land.

The State Government have since complied with the first two requirements. The necessary assurance regarding adequate funds for buildings, equipment, etc. has not so far been received. The Commission will take necessary action to declare the university fit to receive assistance from the Central Government sources as soon as this assurance is received from the State Government.

At present 36 constituent/affiliated colleges of Lalit Narain Mithila University have been brought within the purview of Section 2(f) of the U G.C. Act and are therefore eligible to receive assistance from the Commission. The Commission has so far not received a proposal from the Lalit Narain Mithila University to bring Kalidas Vidyapati Science College, Benipatti within the purview of Section 2(f) of the U.G.C. Act.

Potato Crop in Uttar Pradesh

490 SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.P. is expecting a bumper potato crop and production is likely to cross last year's figure of 2.5 million tonnes;

(b) whether potato crop is confined only to Farrukhabad and its neighbouring district or some other districts in eastern U.P.;

(c) whether Government are aware of a declaration by the State Director of Horticulture that efforts are being made to establish at least two factories in Ferrukhabad for making potato powder, chips and other products; and

(d) whether districts in East U.P. are being considered for establishment of at least one factory there?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) to (d). Information is being collected from the State Government and will be placed on the table of Lok Sabha in due course.

कर्मचारियों को सरकारी आवास

491. **श्री मूल चन्द डागा :** क्या **निर्माण और आवास** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने इस आशय के आदेश जारी किये है कि जिन सरकारी कर्मचारियों के अपने मकान हैं वे सरकारी आवास खाली कर दें ,

(ख) कितने और किस-किस वर्ग के सरकारी कर्मचारियों को सरकारी आवास खाली करने के लिए नोटिस दिये गये हैं ; और

(ग) कितने कर्मचारियों ने अब तक आवास स्थान खाली कर दिये है और सरकार को सौंप दिये है ?

निर्माण और आवास तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्री (श्री के० रघुरामया) :

(क) जी, हां ।

(ख) निम्नलिखित विभिन्न टाईपों के सरकारी वास के दखलकारों को सरकारी मकानों को खाली कर देने अन्यथा मार्किट दरों पर लाईसेंस शुल्क देने के नोटिस जारी कर दिए गए है –

टाईप	अधिकारियों की संख्या
I	400
II	1122
III	607
IV	740
V	243
VI	66
VII	27
VIII	3
होस्टल	28
संसद सदस्य फ्लैट	3
कुल	3,239

(ग) 810

भूमि की अधिकतम सीमा निश्चित किये जाने के बारे में कानून

492. **श्री मूलचन्द डागा :**

श्री हरि किशोर सिंह :

श्री पी० एम० सईद :

क्या **कृषि और सिंचाई** मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सभी राज्यों ने केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा जारी किये गये मार्ग-दर्शी सिद्धान्तों के आधार पर भूमि की अधिकतम सीमा निश्चित करने संबंधी कानून बना लिये हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो प्रत्येक राज्य ने अधिकतम सीमा संबंधी कानूनों के अधीन कितने एकड़ भूमि निश्चित की है ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मन्त्रालय में उप-मन्त्री (श्री प्रभुदास पटेल) : (क) आन्ध्र प्रदेश, बिहार, गुजरात, हरियाणा, हिमाचल प्रदेश, जम्मू और कश्मीर, कर्नाटक, मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, उड़ीसा, पंजाब, राजस्थान, त्रिपुरा और उत्तर प्रदेश ने अपने अधिकतम सीमा सम्बन्धी कानून राष्ट्रीय मार्गदर्शी सिद्धांतों के अनुसार संशोधित कर लिए है । असम, केरल, तमिलनाडु और पश्चिम बंगाल के ये कानून राष्ट्रीय मार्गदर्शी सिद्धांतो के जारी होने से पहले संशोधित किए गए थे जिनमें ये सिद्धान्त निहित थे । मणिपुर के अधिकतम सीमा सम्बन्धी कानून को मार्गदर्शी सिद्धान्तों के अनुसार संशोधित करने का एक विधेयक हाल में राज्य विधान सभा ने पारित कर दिया है और इसकी राष्ट्रपति की स्वीकृति प्रदान करने हेतु जांच हो रही है । नागालैण्ड और मेघालय में फिलहाल भूमि की अधिकतम सीमा सम्बन्धी कानून बनाने का प्रस्ताव नहीं है क्योंकि वहां भूमि अधिकतर सामुदायिक स्वामित्व में है ।

(ख) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा है। [ग्रन्थालय में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या एल० टी० 10101/76]

प्राचीन स्मारकों के आस-पास वातावरण

493 **श्री मूलचन्द डागा :** क्या शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण और संस्कृति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या पुरातत्व विभाग ने इस प्रस्ताव पर विचार किया है कि भारत के विश्व-प्रसिद्ध प्राचीन स्मारकों को केवल सुरक्षित ही न रखा जाये, बल्कि उनके आस पास वातावरण में भी सुधार किया जाये,

(ख) क्या पर्यटन विभाग के साथ परामर्श करके इस प्रयोजन के लिए एक केन्द्रीय मन्त्रणा समिति की स्थापना की गई है,

(ग) क्या प्राक्कलन समिति, 1973-74 के 52वें प्रतिवेदन में यह सुझाव दिया गया है कि एक ऐसा कानून बनाया जाना चाहिए जिससे प्राकृतिक वातावरण के सौन्दर्य को सुरक्षित रखा जा सके, और इस सुझाव को कब तक क्रियान्वित किया जायेगा ?

शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण और संस्कृति मंत्री (प्रो० एस० नुरुल हसन) :

(क) जी हां

(ख) जी हां

(ग) प्राचीन स्मारक और पुरातत्व स्थल तथा पुरावशेष अधिनियम 1958 के अन्तर्गत भारतीय पुरातत्व सर्वेक्षण द्वारा स्मारकों की सुरक्षा और स्मारकों से सलग्न क्षेत्र का विकास करने की व्यवस्था है परन्तु स्मारकों की सुरक्षित सीमाओं से बाहर की भूमि पर उसका नियन्त्रण नहीं होता। केन्द्रीय समन्वयन समिति की सिफारिशों के अनुसरण में नगर और ग्रामीण योजना संगठन ने, स्मारकों की पुरातत्विक सीमाओं से बाहर के क्षेत्रों को भी शामिल करने की दृष्टि से और स्मारकों के परिसर का आयोजित विकास सुनिश्चित करने के उद्देश्य से राज्य के नगर और ग्रामीण योजना अधिनियमों में संशोधन करने के लिए एक आदर्श विधेयक का मसौदा तैयार किया है।

वर्ष 1971 के दौरान राजस्थान और गुजरात में बसे शरणार्थी

494. **श्री मूल चन्द डागा :** क्या पूर्ति और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या वर्ष 1971 में पाकिस्तान के साथ युद्ध के दौरान राजस्थान और गुजरात में बसने वाले शरणार्थियों को वापस भेज दिया गया है, और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है तथा उन लोगों को बसाने के बारे में सरकार की क्या योजना है तथा इस योजना को कब तक क्रियान्वित किया जायेगा ?

पूर्ति और पुनर्वास मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री जी० वेंकटस्वामी) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) वे व्यक्ति पाकिस्तानी नागरिक है और अनुकूल परिस्थिति होने पर इन्हें सुरक्षा तथा सम्मान सहित अपने घरों को वापस जाना है। पाकिस्तान सरकार पर उन व्यक्तियों को लेने के लिए दबाव डाला जा रहा है जो तत्काल पाकिस्तान लौटना चाहते हैं।

भारत सरकार शिविरों में पाकिस्तान नागरिकों को अस्थायी राहत सहायता दे रही है।

Clearance of Irrigation Projects in Maharashtra

495. SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) which irrigation projects in Maharashtra have been cleared or are likely to be cleared by the Central Government in near future as a result of the compromise between the Chief Ministers of concerned States regarding the inter-state use of the waters of Krishna and Godavari rivers;

(b) the irrigation potential of each of these projects; and

(c) when is each of these projects likely to be started and when is it likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) and (b). Since December 1973, 8 projects of Maharashtra in the Krishna Basin have been cleared; 2 other projects have been found technically acceptable and their clearance is expected to be issued shortly; and the 3 more projects will be processed further after final proposals, in the light of Krishna Tribunal's decisions, are received from the State Government. The irrigation potential of these Krishna basin projects are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library See* No LT- /76]

In the Godavari basin, reports for 12 major and 35 medium projects have so far been received from the Government of Maharashtra. The irrigation potentials of these projects as proposed by the State Government are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No LT-10102/176]. These projects are under examination in the Central Water Commission. Action is being initiated to get their latest cost estimates and modified proposals wherever necessary in light of the recent Godavari accord for further processing.

(c) The projects will be implemented by the Government of Maharashtra as and when these schemes are finalised and included in the State's developmental plans and funds allocated for their implementation.

Rehabilitation of refugees from Pakistan and Bangladesh

496. SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state.

(a) the number of refugees who have refused to go back to Pakistan and Bangladesh since 1971;

(b) attempts made to rehabilitate them in India, and

(c) the annual expenditure on such rehabilitation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G VENKATSWAMY): (a) to (c) Pak nationals who crossed over into Rajasthan and Gujarat in the wake of Indo-Pak conflict, 1971 are entitled to return to Pakistan in safety and honour as and when the conditions permit. There are still 54,519 Pak nationals as on 31st October, 1975 who are yet to return to Pakistan. Pakistan Government are being pressed to accept those persons who are desirous of returning to Pakistan immediately.

The annual expenditure on providing temporary relief assistance in camps to these displaced persons is Rs. 175 lakhs approximately.

As regards refugees from Bangladesh, Assam and Meghalaya Governments had reported some time back that there were 739 persons who were still to return to Bangladesh. Out of these, 98 Bangladesh girl refugees had married Indian nationals and they

were advised to obtain Bangladesh passports from the Bangladesh Mission in India and then apply for the grant of long-term visas for stay in India. Since these persons are Bangladesh nationals, they are not eligible for any rehabilitation facilities.

Further up-to-date information has been called for from the two State Governments.

No expenditure has been incurred on providing any assistance to these refugees from Bangladesh

Goa University

497. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state whether Government have approved the proposed Goa University Bill forwarded by the union-territory Administration some time back?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): The matter is still under discussion.

Primary Teachers Rally

498. SHRI P G MAVALANKAR Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Primary Teachers Rally on an All India basis was organised recently in Delhi;

(b) the purpose of holding such a rally;

(c) whether Government directly or indirectly took an initiative in this regard; and

(d) if so, what was the total amount spent by Government on this Rally?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) The All India Primary Teachers' Federation organised an All India Primary Teachers Convention in New Delhi from the 22nd to 24th November, 1975.

(b) The Convention was organised to discuss and formulate action plan for Education and Social Change in India. The theme of the Convention was 'Primary Education for Social Change'. Discussions were held on the special features of the curriculum for the 10+2 classes with special reference to primary education, the aim and objectives and essential features of non-formal education, the role of environmental studies in the teaching of science and mathematics, evaluation procedures, health and agriculture education in schools, work experience, universalization of primary education, the role of science and technology in education, Family Planning and National Integration. More than a lakh of teachers from all parts of the country attended the Convention.

(c) and (d). The Convention was organised by the All India Primary Teachers' Federation. However, the Government welcomed the voluntary action of the Federation in organising a convention of this type. The Ministry of Education and Social Welfare sanctioned an *ad hoc* grant of Rs. 5 lakhs to the Federation for holding the Convention

Demolishing of slums in metropolitan cities in the country

499 SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether slum quarters and individual slums and dwellings have been demolished in the country during 1975, especially in the four metropolitan cities of the country; and

(b) whether the displaced people have been given any alternative areas and facilities for living and working?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). A total of 29563 unauthorised residential structures were demolished in Delhi during 1975. All the eligible families were resettled in the various J. J. Colonies developed for the purpose under the J. J. R. Scheme. Statistics in regard to the remaining three Metropolitan Cities of Madras, Bombay and Calcutta are not available.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAH- Company has informed that the differ- accounted for by use in captive con-

Balance Sheet of Hindustan Lever Limited for the Year 1974

500. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an unexplained difference of over 33,000 tonnes of edible oils/vanaspati in the latest Balance Sheet of Hindustan Lever Limited for the year 1974; and

(b) whether there is a cryptic note on page 17 of the Balance Sheet according to which "production includes items manufactured for captive consumption"?

THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). The ence of 32,812 tonnes for materials is sumption as set out below:—

(In tonnes)

Product	Opening Stock	Production	Sales	Captive consumption	Closing stocks
1. Vanaspat	436	16,355	16,733	..	58
2. Processed Triglycerides/ Hydrogenated Oils . . .					
(a) Non-traditional	..	33,567	755	26,897*	..
(b) Others	..			5,915*	..
TOTAL .	436	49,922	17,488	32,812	58

*Consumed in the manufacture of soaps.

Prices of foodgrains and Sugar

501. SHRI S. M BANERJEE:

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of foodgrains including Sugar came down in the month of October, 1975;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) whether prices started rising in November, 1975 and also in December; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to bring down the prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHNDE): (a) to (c). The All-India index numbers of wholesale prices of foodgrains have declined

from month to month. At the end of September, October and November, 1975 such index stood at 368.1, 353.2 and 336.2 respectively. The latest available index for 27th December, 1975 has further declined to 321.3

The wholesale prices for sugar at the end of September, October, November and December, 1975 ruled at Rs. 425—500, Rs. 405—455, Rs 403—455 and Rs 405—448 (excluding Nagpur only where it was Rs. 475) respectively. In December there was generally a fall in the prices of sugar at most of the centres by Rs 5 to Rs 40 per quintal and, at a few centres only an increase in prices of sugar ranging from Rs. 2 to 16 per quintal (excluding the increase of Rs. 25 in Nagpur) was noticed.

(d) Does not arise.

Pay scales of Primary and Higher Secondary Teachers

502. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether pay scales of Primary and Higher Secondary Teachers are to be improved further; and

(b) if so, whether any Committee has been formed for this purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): (a) School education is the responsibility of the State Governments. The State Governments are making constant efforts to improve the salary scales of teachers subject to their financial constraints.

(b) The Central Government has not formed any Committee for this purpose.

Convention of Northern India University Employees Federation

503. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Northern India University Employees Federation held Convention in Delhi in November, 1975;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any representation on their behalf; and

(c) if so, decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF S NURUL HASAN): (a) to (c) By a letter, the North India University Employees Federation has forwarded the proceedings of the All India Level Convention of the University Employees held in New Delhi in November, 1975. The issues raised in the proceedings are being looked into

Bhoodan Yagna Silver Jubilee Conference at Paunar

504 SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the Bhoodan Yagna Silver Jubilee Conference was held at Paunar in December, 1975; and

(b) nature of assistance and cooperation given by the Central Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and a suitable reply will thereafter be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Prices of Agricultural Commodities

505. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of various agricultural commodities have been increased or decreased; and

(b) the comparative prices of these commodities during this year and the earlier one?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) and (b). At present procurement/minimum paries are fixed by the Government for major cereals, sugarcane, jute and kapas. The following table gives the prices fixed by the Government in respect of these commodities for years 1974-75 and 1975-76:

Rs. per quintal

Commodity	Variety	Procurement price	1974-75	1975-76
Paddy . .	Coarse	Procurement price	74	74
Jowar . .	Fair average quality	Do.	74	74
Bajra . .	Do.	Do.	74	74
Maize . .	Do.	Do.	74	74
Ragi . .	Do.	Do.	74	74
Wheat . .	All varieties	Do.	105	105
Sugarcane . .		Statutory minimum price repayable by Sugar factories.	8·50†	8·50†
Jute . .	Assam Bottom	Minimum support price	125*	135*
Kapas . .	320-F American	Do.	Not fixed	210

*Fixed uniformly on a statutory basis for all upcountry markets.

†Linked to a basic recovery level of 8.5% with a premium of 10 paise for every increase of 0·1% over the basic level.

Financial Assistance to Jhuggi-Jhonpri Dwellers in Delhi

506. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to provide financial assistance to those jhuggi-jhonpri dwellers who have been displaced as a result of the recent drive to make Delhi clean; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Price of Paddy and Wheat

507. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE & IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the 'crash' in the prices of paddy and wheat; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide relief to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). There has been a marked fall in prices of paddy and wheat on account of a good Kharif crop, heavy market arrivals, unloading of old stocks earlier held for specultive purposes by traders and big cultivators and strict anti-hoarding and anti-profiteering measures taken by the State Governments especially after the proclamation of Emergency. The market prices of fair average quality gains have been generally ruling higher than the procurement prices. *Government have, however, made* adequate arrangements for providing effective support to the prices of foodgrains, wherever necessary, so as to safeguard the interests of the farmers.

उत्तर प्रदेश के चीनी मिलों पर गन्ने की बकाया राशि

508. **श्री हरी सिंह :** क्या **कृषि और सिंचाई** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को पता है कि उत्तर प्रदेश के चीनी मिलों की और किसानों के गन्ने के मूल्य का भुगतान कई वर्षों से बकाया चल रहा है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो किसानों को इस बकाया राशि का भुगतान कराने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या उपाय किये जा रहे हैं ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां): (क) जी हां। 15-12-1975 को कुल लगभग 15.14 करोड़ रुपये की बकाया राशी थी, जिसमें से लगभग 12.37 करोड़ रुपये 1974-75 मौसम से संबंधित थे।

(ख) राज्य सरकार को समय समय पर सलाह दी जाती रही है कि वे गन्ने के मूल्य के बकायों की राशि वसूल करने के लिए सभी सम्भव और कड़े उपाय करें। कुछ समय पूर्व राज्य सरकार ने देर से भुगतान करने के लिए दंड ब्याज की राशि की 7 1/2 प्रतिशत से बढ़ाकर 12 प्रतिशत कर दिया था और उसमें और बढ़ाकर 15 प्रतिशत करने का प्रस्ताव है। उन्होंने चुकौती मिल के विरुद्ध सूती सर्टिफिकेट भी जारी किए हैं। जिला मैजिस्ट्रेटों को निर्देश दिए गए हैं कि वे चालू मौसम की बैंक पेशगियों से और पिछले मौसम के चीनी के स्टाक पर उपलब्ध मार्जिन से बकायों के भुगतान करना सुनिश्चित करें

Open University

509. SHRI HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to start Open University in the country for education and advanced studies; and

(b) if so, when that University is going to start its educational work?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration.

Proposal to increase Sugarcane Price

510. SHRI HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATIION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the present price of sugarcane supplied to the sugar mills in the country; and

(b) if so, when will these mills start paying farmers at new rates and what will be the increased price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir. There is no intention of increasing the statutory minimum cane prices for 1975-76 season already announced by the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

Implementation of the Medium and Major Irrigation Schemes in Karnataka

511. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) steps taken recently to resolve all inter-state water disputes in the country particularly those concerning Karnataka State, after the proclamation of the emergency; and

(b) efforts made to provide financial assistance for speedy implementation of the Medium and Major Irrigation Schemes in Karnataka since the proclamation of emergency?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRCULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) Karnataka is a party to the disputes relating to Cauvery, Godavari and Krishna waters. Steps taken to resolve these disputes since the proclamation of emergency are as under:

Cauvery: The officers of the Department of Irrigation held discussions with the Officers of the three States of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu separately in September, 1975. Arising out of these meetings some further studies are being carried out on certain issues relating to the use and development of Cauvery waters. A joint meeting with the officers of the three States is proposed to be called after the studies are completed.

Godavari: With a view to reaching a consensus for a programme of construction of new projects in Godavari Basin pending the Tribunal's decision, the Union Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation called a meeting the decisions taken, two meetings cerned States in July, 1975. Following the decisions taken, two meetings at officer level were held and the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh discussed the various issues involved with the Chief Ministers of Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra and three bilateral agreements were reached. A meeting was also held between the Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa at the request of the Union Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation and a bilateral agreement was reached. The final accord on the Godavari was reached at the meeting taken by the Union Minister with the Chief Ministers of all the five States on 19th December, 1975.

Krishna: References made by the party-States and the Union of India under Section 5 (3) of the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 are being heard by the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal. The Tribunal will give a further report after the hearing is over.

Other important pending disputes relate to the Yamuna waters and the projects affecting Bihar and West Bengal. Their present position is as follows:—

Yamuna A study of the water availability and existing utilisatiton of the Yamuna waters has been carried out and copy of the studies sent to the concerned States, *viz*, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh and Delhi Administration. It is proposed to discuss the various aspects at an inter-State meeting after the comments on the study are received

Bihar—West Bengal differences. At the instance of the Central Government these are under discussions between the officers of the two States whereafter the Chief Ministers of the two States would discuss the same to arrive at an acceptable solution

(b) A special advance Plan assistance of Rs. 3 crores during the current year has been provided to the Government of Karnataka subject to certain conditions for Malaprabha project with a view to accelerate progress of this project.

Scheme for Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Development Agencies and Drought Prone Area Programme in Karnataka

512 SHRI K LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received representation from Karnataka for extension of M.F.A.L. and D.P.A.P. Schemes in drought-prone as well as scarcity areas in the State for remaining period of Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, whether his Ministry propose to extend the same for the benefit of scarcity areas in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The Government of Karnataka made a request in June 1975 for extension of Drought Prone Areas Programme to 8 more talukas of Gulbarga, Raichur, Bellary and Dharwar districts. No request was received for extension of Marginal Farmer and Agricultural labour Agency Programme to new areas. However the State Government requested for extension of the period of Tumkur and Bijapur MFAL Agencies beyond 1975-76.

(b) The request of the State for extension of D P.A P. to new areas could not be accepted as the approach is to intensify efforts in selected areas only so that there is real impact. The period of operation of Tumkur Agency is likely to be extended and continued during Fifth Plan period. The M F A L Agency in Bijapur will be taken over by D.P.A.P. from 1976-77 onwards

Bhimkund Dam Project, Orissa

513. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report on the Bhimkund Dam Project, Orissa State has been examined by Government; and

(b) whether Government has attached any priority to its execution in view of its importance for controlling the floods?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) The project report for

Stage I of Bhimkund Project envisaging flood control and power benefits was received from the State Government in August, 1974. The Central Water Commission sent their comments to the State Government in September/November, 1975, replies to which are awaited.

(b) The project has not been included by the Government of Orissa in their draft Fifth Plan.

Food Production in Punjab

514. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) total production of foodgrains in Punjab during 1974-75; and

(b) total procurement of wheat in Punjab during 1974-75?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) The final estimate of production of foodgrains in Punjab for 1974-75 has not yet been received. According to available information the production of foodgrains in the State during 1974-75 is higher than the previous year's production of 77.20 lakh tonnes.

(b) The total procurement of wheat in Punjab out of the 1974-75 crop has been 23.61 lakh tonnes upto 2nd January, 1976.

Kharif Procurement by F.C.I.

515. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Food Corporation of India has entered in the market to procure kharif foodgrains under the price support scheme; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). The Food Corporation has entered the market for support operations, wherever necessary, in States where it is working as one of the procuring agencies. In other States, the Corporation has offered its services to the State Government for undertaking such price support operations. Government of India have also instructed all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to ensure that adequate price support arrangements are made for Kharif foodrains, wherever necessary.

Guide-lines for Universities

516. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated guide-lines to be followed by all the Universities in the country whereby a University is not to be used as a sanctuary from law; and

(b) whether steps have also been taken by the Centre to guide the State Universities to ensure that students are not misguided to take to destructive politics and much of their academic time is not wasted in indulging in political activities in the University campus?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) and (b). Laws framed by Parliament or State Legislatures are universally applicable and the question of any university enjoying the status of a 'sanctuary' does not arise.

At the recent conference of Vice-Chancellors, Government have made it clear, as they have done repeatedly on other occasions in the past, that violence, threats, intimidation and

coercion have no place in academic institutions and that all attempts, including those made by outside elements, to disrupt academic life should be resisted. The authorities of the universities and of law and order have been taking appropriate steps to curb disruptive activities.

Demolishing of Shastri Market, R. K. Puram, New Delhi

517 SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shastri Market in R. K. Puram, New Delhi was constructed under the instruction of the Estate Office, New Delhi and now it has been demolished by the Delhi Development Authority; and

(b) whether the permission of the Estate Office was obtained before demolishing the Shastri Market?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K RAGHU RAMAIAH) (a) Yes, Sir Conditional permission was given by the Ministry of Works and Housing subject to the superstructure on the platforms being built according to the regulations of the local bodies, and that the Government could take over these premises from the allottees without payment of compensation.

(b) No Sir, the allottees did not conform to the condition put by the Ministry regarding the superstructures

Demolishing of Houses in Village Jamroodpur in South Delhi

518 SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the houses which were constructed as far back as in 1951 and the registry in respect of which was effected in 1951 in village Jamroodpur in South Delhi were also recently demolished and the house owners were not even served with notices; and

(b) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir. According to information available, houses of post 1951 origin have been demolished with issue of proper notices.

(b) Question does not arise.

Demolishing of Houses in Village Madipur, South Delhi

519. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will he Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some houses have been demolished in village Madipur in Delhi;

(b) whether Government are aware that some of the houses which were demolished were built even prior to 1942; and

(c) whether the house owners so displaced have not been allotted alternate site?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K RAGHU RAMAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to revenue records, no houses were built prior to 1942.

(c) The house-owners have been allotted alternative sites.

Incentives to Sugar Factories

520 SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:
SHRI SARJOO PANDEY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether on 25th November, 1975 the Government had announced

that new sugar factories and expansion of the existing plants would be given special incentives in the form of a higher free sale quota and concessional excise duty liability; and

(b) if so, the new concessions announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A statement giving the salient features of the scheme of incentives is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10103/76].

House sites for Agricultural Labourers

521. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) estimated number of homeless agricultural labourers in the country, State-wise at present;

(b) estimated number of homeless agricultural labourers who have been provided, State-wise with house sites todate, since the announcement of the 20-point programme; and

(c) what financial and other assistance, if any, are being given to these labourers, to enable them to build their own houses?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): (a) and (b). A statement based on the reports received so far from the State Governments is laid down on the table of the Lok Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10104/76].

(c) The scheme for provision of house-sites to landless workers in rural areas does not contemplate grant of any other assistance from Government for construction of houses on the house-sites allotted to them. Allottees are expected to build houses|huts on the sites with their own resources.

Guidelines to States re: procurement of rice and wheat

522. SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a uniform guidelines have been sent to all the States by the Union Ministry re: the procedure for procurement of rice and wheat; and

(b) whether the State Governments have been asked to procure all the surplus stock of paddy and wheat from the big land owners having 10 acres of wet and 15 acres of dry land, leaving their own requirements and agricultural expenses, with a view to keeping enough stock in the hands of the Government for checking price rise and for feeding the needy and distressed people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). Though broad guidelines have been indicated by the Government of India, it has been left to the discretion of each State Government to adopt, after obtaining approval of the Central Government, whichever method of procurement is best suited to their conditions for maximising procurement of foodgrains. No directive has been issued for adoption of any uniform mode of procurement throughout the country.

Prospects of rice and wheat crops

523. SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE:

SHRI P. GANGADEB:

SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the prospects of the current year's crop yield (rice and wheat)

State-wise and its effect on the price level in the big rice and wheat markets of the country; and

(b) steps taken to further increase the production of foodgrains specially Paddy and wheat with a view to make the country self sufficient in food and to stop further food import from other countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) It is too early to indicate the crop yield State-wise. The Kharif crops have just been harveseted and Rabi crops sown. However, in the current year—(1975-76)—rainfall and supply of inputs including fertilizers and power have generally been favourable in most of the States. The area under Kharif crops registered substantial increase over the previous year and the target of 69 million tonnes is likely to be achieved. Similarly, due to favourable conditions at the sowing time, the area under Rabi crops, particularly wheat, is also expected to increase significantly. Due to increased production during the Kharif season, the prices of foodgrains have generally shown a declining trend.

(b) The 5th Plan target of foodgrains Production has been fixed at 140 millions tonnes. It is envisaged that the fulfilment of this target will make the country not only self-sufficient in respect of foodgrains but also leave a cushion for building a buffer stock. The steps being taken to achieve this target include extension of area under high yielding varieties of crops; increased emphasis on development of minor irrigation emphasis on command area development for increased utilisation of irrigation potential; advising the State Governments on introducing, better crop patterns including advancing the sowing of paddy in some area supported by timely release of water and raising of community nurseries. introduction of dry farming technology through pilot projects and drought prone area programme, closer coordination among Agriculture, irrigation and Allied Departments; strengthening of arrangements for production and supply of quality seeds; stress on soil analysis and optimum utilisation of available fertilisers supplies supplemented by accelerated use of local manurial resources strengthening of infrastructure of research; extension and farmers training; popularisation of new varieties of rice, wheat and millets through minikit programmes; expansion of institutional credit and attention to price and marketing support.

'Distress-sale' of paddy

524. SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Ministry has taken all precaution to see that the poor peasants are not forced to make large scale "distress-sale" of paddy during the harvesting season and to lose a big amount of money in the hands of the middleman of big blackmarketeers in rice and wheat trade;

(b) if so, what are the measures taken; and

(c) price fixed for paddy and wheat for procurement from the peasants and the general guidelines given by Union Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) (a) to (c). The procurement price of coarse variety paddy in all States has been fixed at Rs. 74|- per quintal during 1975-76 marketing season. The prices of other better varieties of paddy have been fixed between Rs. 76|- and 110|- per quintal, depending on the parti-

cular variety. The current procurement price of wheat is Rs. 105|- per quintal for all varieties.

Government have issued instructions to all State Governments|Union Territory Administrations to undertake price support purchase at the procurement prices, in case of fall in the market prices of foodgrains. The procuring agencies have also made elaborate arrangements for price quintal fir all varieties.

Rise in price of Onions

525. SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main causes of the abnormal price-rise of onions throughout the country and what are the prevailing average prices of onion; and

(b) what steps the Union Ministry have taken to reduce and stabilise the prices of onion?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) Prices of onions witnessed a sharp rise generally during November-December, 1975. The main factors responsible for rise in prices were poor crop in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu and improved prospects of exports following the failure of onion crop in Egypt and the Netherlands which led to speculative activities in the trade. The following were the prevailing prices of onions at the selected markets of the country.

(Rs. per quintal)

State/Union Territory	Centre	Variety	Latest wholesale prices as on 26-12-75/ 2-1-76
Andhra Pradesh	Cuddapah	Bellary	127
	Hyderabad	Red I	165
Bihar	Patna	Dry	295
Haryana	Karnal		118
Maharashtra	Bombay	Nasik I	93
	Nasik	Red	100
Tamil Nadu	Madras	Small Kar	100
Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur	Red	120
West Bengal	Calcutta	Bomay	115
Delhi	Delhi	Nasik	110

(b) To check the rise in prices, the Government canalised exports of onions from 4th December, 1975, only through the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation, who were directed not to undertake the exports for the time being As a result of this measure and because of the arrival of the second onion crop in the market, there has been an appreciable decline in the prices of onions.

Progress made in construction of D P. Irrigation Project in Orissa

526 SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the D P. Canal Irrigation Project State II in Orissa has been included in the Fifth Plan;

(b) the total amount allotted by the Centre for the year 1975-76; and

(c) progress made so far in the construction of the Project and when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected from State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

Optimising agricultural products

527 SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state: whether the useful suggestions of NFAO Seminar in Delhi for optimising agricultural products have been circulated to all the States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): A Seminar on the subject 'Optimising Agricultural Production under Limited Availability of Fertilizers' was organised by the Fertiliser Association of India—a private Association of domestic manufacturers of fertilizers in December 1974 at New Delhi. The Food & Agriculture Organisation co-sponsored the Seminar. The recommendations of the Seminar were forwarded by the Fertilizer Association of India to the concerned Governmental and other agencies including the State Governments.

Pulse Development Programme

528 SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the results of Pulse Development Programme implemented in 30 districts, and

(b) when the entire pulse producing area is likely to be covered under the programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) The progress reports for pulses development programme are not received district-wise However, it has been planned to increase pulses prodution by bringing additional area under short-duration varieties of these crops and adopt improved practices in their cultivation The coverage under additional area approach and package approach in 1973-74 was 1 50 lakh and 9 30 lakh hects and that in 1974-75 was 4 50 and 26 70 lakh hectares respectively.

(b) The objective during the 5th Plan is to cover an area of 15 lakh hects under additional area approach and 70 lakh hect under package approach The Scheme on pulses development demonstrates the technology if increased production. It is expected that the improved technology demonstrated through the

Centrally Sponsored Scheme on development of pulses will be further adopted by the farmers in other areas in subsequent years.

Production of sugar from sugarbeet

529. SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether cultivation of sugarbeet has been established in our soil; and

(b) if so, by what time sugar production on commercial scale from sugarbeet would start?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Commercial production of sugar from beetroot has already started in a small way.

Setting up of Central Universities in States

530. SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Education Advisory Council has made a recommendation to Government for setting up a Central University in every State; and

(b) whether Government propose to set up these Universities?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) The Central Advisory Board of Education has not made any such recommendation during the last five years.

(b) Does not arise.

Property Tax arrears due from Delhi Development Authority

531. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority is among top tax defaulters and it has to pay a large sum to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi as property tax;

(b) the total amount the DDA has to pay to the Municipal Corporation as property tax as on the 31st December, 1975 and when the DDA paid this tax to Municipal Corporation of Delhi last and the amount thereof; and

(c) steps taken by Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH) (a) and (b) (i) The M.C.D. has claimed a sum of Rs. 68·86 lakhs as property tax as on the 31st December, 1975.

(ii) According to the M.C.D. the total payment made by the DDA to the M.C.D. for the periods from 1972-73 to 1974-75 is Rs. 1.32 lakhs and that too in respect of only one property.

(c): The question whether the DDA is exempted from payment of property taxes in respect of the built-up properties and vacant lands held by it in the name of the Union and in its own name has been under examination for some time past. It has since been clarified to the DDA that tax on property or service charges in lieu will be payable to the local bodies on certain basis. DDA is considering further action in the matter.

New Multi-purpose Seed

532. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a multi-purpose seed had been cultured in Kasargode; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

Construction of Sharda Sahayak Canal in Faizabad Division of U.P.

533. SHRI R. K. SINHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in the construction of Sharda Sahayak Canal in Faizabad Division of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the area of land to be irrigated after the completion of this canal; and

(c) when the said canal is likely to be completed and the estimated expenditure involved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): (a) The Branch Canal systems in the Faizabad Division of U.P. under the Sharda Sahayak Project and the progress thereon are indicated below:

(i) Daryabad Branch and Barabanki Branch systems	60%
(ii) Sultanpur Branch system	50%
(iii) Haidergrah Branch system	25%
(iv) Purva Branch system	8%

(b) About 7.95 lakh Hectares.

(c) The Canal systems are likely to be completed by June, 1982. The estimated cost of the Canals is nearly Rs. 43 crores.

Foodgrains procured and price of rice and wheat

534. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of foodgrains procured in the country by the Government so far;

(b) what was the price Government had given to growers for rice and wheat;

(c) at what price Government is selling these to the consumers; and

(d) what is price of rice and wheat in open market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) According to reports received upto 9-1-1976 a total quantity of 6·91 million tonnes of wheat, rice and coarse grains has been procured during 1975-76 marketing season.

(b) Government are purchasing paddy and wheat from the growers at a price range between Rs 74·00 and Rs 110·00 per quintal for different varieties of paddy and at Rs. 105.00 per quintal for all varieties of wheat.

(c) and (d) Two statements (I & II) are laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No LT-10105/76*].

Representation for revision of sugar and sugarcane price

535. SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether larger number of representations have been received by

Government pleading for revision of the irrational levy prices for sugar and minimum price for sugarcane; and

(b) reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) It is true that representations have been received against the levy prices of sugar and the statutory minimum notified cane price.

(b) The prices of levy sugar of 1974-75 production were determined in July 1975 in accordance with the provisions of section 3 (3C) of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 on the basis of the actual figures of recovery, duration, etc. The prices of levy sugar of 1975-76 production have been notified at the same level as fixed in July 1975 for 1974-75 season, and the matter is kept under constant review.

The Government have no intention of reviewing the notified statutory minimum cane price for 1975-76 season, which has been fixed having regard to the overall economic situation and the Government's determination to hold the price line of all the essential commodities of mass consumption. Under the policy of partial control in vogue, the sugar factories, however, usually pay higher cane prices in consultation with State Governments.

उज्जैन में कालिदास उत्सव

536. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :** क्या शिक्षा, समाज कल्याण और संस्कृति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उज्जैन (मध्य प्रदेश) में हर साल कालिदास उत्सव मनाया जाता है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो केन्द्रीय सरकार ने इस प्रयोजन के लिये वर्ष 1973-74, 1974-75 और वर्ष 1975 के अंत तक, अलग-अलग, कितनी धनराशि दी,

(ग) क्या तत्सम्बन्धी कार्य टैंडर आमंत्रित करके किया जाता है, और

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार को उपरोक्त अवधि में इस सम्बन्ध में की गई अनियमितताओं की शिकायतें मिली हैं ?

शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मन्त्रालय तथा संस्कृति विभाग में उप-मंत्री (श्री डी० पी० यादव) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) इस प्रयोजन के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा स्वीकृत धनराशि निम्न प्रकार है --

	रु०
1973-74 .	20,000.00
1974-75 .	25,000.00
1975-76 .	25,000.00

(ग) और (घ) राज्य सरकार से अपेक्षित सूचना भेजने का अनुरोध किया गया है और यह सूचना सभा पटल पर यथा समय रख दी जायेगी ।

Release of water from Farrakka Barrage

537 DR RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) how much water has been released from Farrakka Barrage during Monsoon and after Monsoon to river Hooghly daily;

(b) whether it has helped in the improvement of navigability of Calcutta Port; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KADAR NATH SINGH) (a) Daily discharges up to the full carrying capacity of the Feeder Canal have been released from Farrakka Barrage continuously during and after the Monsoon of 1975.

(b) and (c) It is too early to provide a definite assessment about the improvements in the navigability of the Hooghly for the Calcutta Port.

Targets of Food Procurement

538. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the target for food procurement in the year 1975-76 how much would be locally procured and how much from abroad; and

(b) steps taken by Government to raise the floor price of foodgrains in the interest of both producers and consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) The target for procurement of foodgrains within the country has been fixed at 10·1 million tonnes comprising of 5·5 million tonnes of wheat during the rabi marketing season 1975-76 (April-March) and 4·6 million tonnes of rice during the Kharif marketing season 1975-76 (November-October). No target for import of foodgrains has been fixed.

(b) The interests of producers as well as consumers are duly taken into account by the Government while fixing the procurement prices of foodgrains. In order to safeguard the interests of the farmers, adequate arrangements have also been made for providing support at procurement prices wherever necessary.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

WATER (PREVENTION & CONTROL OF POLLUTION) RULES, 1975, DELHI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (REMOVAL OF OBJECTIONABLE DEVELOPMENTS) RULES 1975 & U.P. CEILING ON PROPERTY (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS ON TRANSFER) AMD. ORDINANCE, 1975

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Rules, 1975 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 58 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th February, 1975, under sub-section (3) of section 63 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. [*Placed in Library, See No. LT*-10066/76].

(2) A copy of the Delhi Development Authority (Removal of Objectionable Developments) Rules, 1975 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 2385 in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 1975, under section 58 of the Delhi Development Act, 1957. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10069/76].

(3) A copy of the Uttar Pradesh Ceiling on Property (Temporary Restrictions on Transfer) Amendment Ordinance, 1975 (Uttar Pradesh Ordinance No. 39 of 1975) promulgated by the Governor of U.P. on the 29th December, 1975, under provisions of article 213 (2) (a) of the Constitution read with clause (c) (iii) of the Proclamation dated

the 30th November, 1975 issued by the President in relation to the State of Uttar Pradesh together with a memorandum explaining the circumstances for the issue of the Ordinance. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10070/76].

INTERIM REPORT 1973 OF WAKF INQUIRY COMMITTEE, NOTIFICATIONS UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955, U.P. SUGARCANE (REGULATION OF SUPPLY AND PURCHASE) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1975 & ANNUAL REPORT OF DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR SUGAR INDUSTRY FOR 1974-75

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Interim Report 1973 of Wakf Inquiry Committee (Hindi version). [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10071/76].

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

(i) The Sugarcane (Control) Amendment Order, 1975, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 492 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th September, 1975.

(ii) The Sugarcane (Control) Second Amendment Order, 1975, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 542 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th October, 1975.

(iii) The Sugar (Price Determination for 1975-76 Production) Order, 1975, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 571 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th November, 1975. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10072/76].

(3) A copy of the Uttar Pradesh Sugarcane (Regulation of Supply and Purchase) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1975 (Uttar Pradesh Ordinance No. 25 of 1975) (Hindi and English versions) promulgated by the Governor of U.P. on the 17th September, 1975, under provisions of article 213 (2) (a) of the Constitution read with clause (c) (iii) of the Proclamation dated the 30th November, 1975 issued by the President in relation to the State of Uttar Pradesh together with a memorandum explaining the circumstances for the issue of the Ordinance. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10073/76].

(4) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Development Council for Sugar Industry for the year 1974-75, under sub-section (4) of section 7 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10074/76].

CENTRAL EXCISE (FIRST AMDT.) RULES, 1976

THE MINISTER OF STATE INCHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Central Excise (First Amendment) Rules, 1976 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 15 in Gazette of India dated the 3rd January, 1976, under section 38 of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10075/76].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER FOOD CORPORATIONS ACT, 1964 & ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955, ANNUAL REPORTS OF CENTRAL WAREHOUSING CORPORATION AND FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA FOR 1974-75 & 1972-73.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of

Annasaheb P Shinde]

section 44 of the Food Corporations Act, 1964 —

(i) The Food Corporations (Second Amendment) Rules, 1975, published in Notification No G S R 485 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 6th September, 1975

(ii) The Food Corporations (Third Amendment) Rules, 1975, published in Notification No G S R 538 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 24th October, 1975 [*Placed in Library See No.* LT-10076/76]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 —

(i) The Gujarat and Dadra and Nagar Haveli Rice (Export) and Paddy (Movement Control) Amendment Order, 1975 published in Notification No G S R 2580 in Gazette of India dated the 25th October 1975

(ii) G S R 2581 published in Gazette of India dated the 25th October, 1975 rescinding the Roller Mills Wheat Products (Ex-mill) Price Control Order, 1969 published in Notification No G S R 1103 dated the 3rd May, 1969 [*Placed in Library. See No LT*-10077/76]

(3) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Warehousing Corporation for the year 1974-75 along with the Audited Accounts and the Audit Report thereon under sub-section (11) of section 31 of the Warehousing Corporation Act 1962 [*Placed in Library See No LT*-10078/76]

(4) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Food Corporation of India for the year 1972-73 along with the Audited Accounts under sub-section (2) of section 35 of the Food Corporation Act, 1964 [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10079/76].

FERTILISER (CONTROL) 3RD AMDT ORDER 1975, STATEMENT RE DELAY IN LAYING ANNUAL REPORT OF M P AGRO-INDUSTRIES CORPN, BHOPAL FOR 1972-73, ANNUAL REPORTS ETC

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL) I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Fertiliser (Control) Third Amendment Order, 1975 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No G S R 486 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th September, 1975, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act 1955 [*Placed in Library See No LT*-10080/76]

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the *Annual Report of the Madhya Pradesh Agro-Industries Corporation Limited, Bhopal for the year 1972-73 [*Placed in Library See No LT*-10081/76]

(3) (a) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956—

(i) Annual Report of the Kerala Agro-Industries Corporation Limited Trivandrum, for the year 1972-73 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon

(ii) Annual Report of the Karnataka Agro-Industries Corporation Limited, Bangalore for the year 1973-74 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon

*The Report was laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on the 21st July, 1975

(iii) Annual Report of the Gujarat Agro-Industries Corporation Limited, Ahmedabad, for the year 1973-74 along with the Audited Accounts and the Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(b) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the report mentioned at (i) above.

[*Placed in Library. See No. LT-10082/76*].

ANNUAL REPORTS AND NOTIFICATIONS

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINSTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions):—

(a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, for the year 1973-74.

(b) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, for the year 1974-75. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-10093/76*].

(c) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, for the year 1974-75. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-10084/76*].

(d) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, for the year 1974-75. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-10085/76*].

(e) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, for the year 1974-75. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-10086/76*].

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the report mentioned at (1) (a) above [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-10086/76*].

(3) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions:—

(i) Annual Report of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute (Eastern Region) Calcutta, for the year 1974-75.

(ii) Annual Report of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute (Northern Region) Chandigarh, for the year 1974-75.

(iii) Annual Report of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute (Southern Region) Madras, for the year 1974-75.

(iv) Annual Report of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute (Western Region) Bhopal, for the year 1974-75. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-10087/76*].

(4) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Foundry and Forge Technology, Ranchi, for the year 1974-75. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-10088/76*].

(5) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions):—

(i) Annual Report of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, for the year 1973-74.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian School of Mines, Dhenbad, for the year 1974-75. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-10089/76*].

(6) Statement showing reasons for delay in laying the Report at (5) (i) above.

(7) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions:—

(i) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, for the year 1974-75.

[Shri D. P. Yadav]

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, for the year 1974-75.

(iii) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, for the year 1974-75. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10090|76].

(8) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute for Training in Industrial Engineering, Bombay, for the year 1974-75. [*Placed in library. See No. LT*-10091|76].

(9) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Executive Committee of the Trustees of the Victoria Memorial Hall, Calcutta, for the year 1974-75. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10092/76].

(10) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 25 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956:

(i) The University Grants Commission (Disqualification, Retirement and Conditions of Service of Members) Amendment Rules, 1975, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 2417 in Gazette of India dated the 20th September, 1975.

(ii) The University Grants Commission (Terms and Conditions of Service of Employees) (Second Amendment) Rules, 1975, published in Notification No. G. S.R. 2521 in Gazette of India dated the 11th October, 1975. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10093/76].

(11) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi version) of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi, for the year 1973-74. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10094/76].

(12) A copy of the Annal Report (Hindi version) of the Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi for the year 1973-74. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10095/76].

(13) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad, for the year 1974-75. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT*-10096/76].

12.02 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on Thursday, the 8th January, 1976, adopted the following motion in regard to the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Adoption of Children Bill, 1972:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Adoption of Children Bill, 1972, be further extended upto the last day of the Ninety-sixth Session of the Rajya Sabha." '

12.2-½ hrs.

RELEASE ON PAROLE OF MEMBER

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that I have received the following communication dated the 10th January, 1976, from the Superintendent, Central Jail, New Delhi:—

"I have the honour to inform you that Smt. Gayatri Devi, Member, Lok Sabha, has been released on parole on 9-1-76 for a period of two months commencing 9-1-76 *vide* Ministry of Finance Order No. 708|5|76-Cus. IX dated the 9-1-76".

12.03 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIFTH REPORT

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta—North-East): I beg to present the Hundred and eighty-fifth Report of

the Public Accounts Committee on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Hundred and sixtieth Report on paragraph 42 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1972-73, Union Government (Civil) relating to Indian Agents' Commission—Department of Supply.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

EIGHTY-THIRD REPORT

SHRI R. K. SINHA (Faizabad): I beg to present the Eighty-third Report of the Estimates Committee regarding Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Fifty-seventh Report on the Ministry of Health and Family Planning (Department of Health)—Central Government Health Scheme.

12.3-1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

EIGHTEENTH REPORT

Dr. KAILAS (Bombay South): I beg to present the Eighteenth Report of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

Thirteenth Report

SHRI B. K. DESCHOWDHURY (Cooch-Behar): I beg to present the Thirteenth Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT

Fifteenth and Sixteenth Reports

SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO (Rajamundry): I beg to present the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Reports of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit.

12.04 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. HELICOPTER ACCIDENT IN THE BOMBAY HIGH

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM (SHRI K. D MALAVIYA): Mr. Speaker Sir, it is with deep regret that I rise to make this statement regarding an accident that occurred on the afternoon of Friday, the 9th of January. As the Honourable Members are aware, ONGC has been exploring for petroleum in the Bombay High area Apart from its own rig, the Sagar Samrat, ONGC has charter-hired two rigs namely, the Haakon Magnas and the Dalmahoy The periodical crew-change on the rigs is effected with helicopter services provided by the Indian Air Force

On 9th January, a helicopter landed on the Haakon Magnus and after the relieving crew disembarked, it flew on to the Dalmahoy and picked up six persons from that rig. While returning to the Haakon Magnus around 15 32 hours to pick up the relieved crew, the tail-rotor of the helicopter appears to have struck against some part of the drill ship, caught fire; as the helicopter landed on the helipad there was an explosion

The helicopter crew came out with minor injuries. Of the six passengers, Mr Mike Ryan, a French national working with schlumberger, was thrown out of the helicopter in a State of severe shock. The other five passengers died instantaneously and their bodies were recovered. Among those killed was a Canadian employee of a firm of Singapore engaged in the cementing work of oil wells; and four were Indians, of whom one was a Senior Driller of the O.N G C., and three were Indian employees of foreign contracting firms

On receipt of the information, a rescue helicopter was immediately flown out. The helipad of the Haakon Magnus having become unserviceable due to the accident, the rescue heli-

[Shri K D Malaviya]

copter landed on the deck of a lay-barge operating about four to five miles away With the help of a supply boat, the injured were brought to the lay-barge and flown to Bombay for treatment

The dead-bodies were brought to Bombay and handed over to the representatives of the respective organisations in which the deceased were working The dead body of Shri Ram Pal, Senior Driller of the O N G C was flown to New Delhi and taken by road to Hoshiarpur, his home town O N G C further arranged for the funeral and other obsequies Apart from a cash grant for meeting the immediate expenditure, O N G C would be paying a sum of Rupees one lakh to Shri Ram Pal's family, under the basis of an insurance scheme

I visited Bombay on Saturday, immediately after getting the news of the tragedy The Chairman of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission had also arrived and necessary consultations were held with regard to the disposal of the bodies and other duties that had to be performed in this connection Mr Mike Ryan the French national is receiving treatment in the Beach Candy Hospital and is wholly out of danger As the burnt helipad was to be cleared yesterday afternoon it was not considered practical for any one of us to reach the Haakon Magnus just now All alternative arrangements for normal drilling operations and communication with the Haakon Magnus drill ship have been made and the testing of the Haakon Magnus drilled well is at present going on according to programme

A Court of Inquiry will be held by Air Force authorities The O N G C has been advised to go into the question of additional safety precautions they may be considered necessary

---

12.06 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS), 1975-76

MR SPEAKER Now, Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) by Shri Qureshi

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD SHAFI QURESHI) Sir, I beg to present a statement showing Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1975 76

UNIT TRUST OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Unit Trust of India Act 1963

MR SPEAKER The question is

'That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Unit Trust of India Act 1963'

The motion was adopted

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI I introduced† the Bill

12 6-1/2 hrs

STATEMENT RE UNIT TRUST OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1975

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English ver-

---

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 12-1-76

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

sions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Unit Trust of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 1975, as required under rule 71(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

12.07 hrs.

VOLUNTARY DISCLOSURE OF INCOME AND WEALTH BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for voluntary disclosure of income and wealth and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for voluntary disclosure of income and wealth and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto"

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I introduce† the Bill.

12.7-1/2 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. VOLUNTARY DISCLOSURE OF INCOME AND WEALTH ORDINANCE, 1975 AND VOLUNTARY DISCLOSURE OF INCOME AND WEALTH (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 1975

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): I lay on the Table an explanatory statment (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Voluntary Disclosure of Income and Wealth Ordinance, 1975 and the Voluntary Disclosure of Income and Wealth (Amendment) Ordinance, 1975, as required under rule 71(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha

12.08 hrs.

SMUGGLERS AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE MANIPULATORS (FORFEITURE OF PROPERTY) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the forfeiture of illegally acquired properties of smugglers and foreign exchange manipulators and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the forfeiture of illegally acquired properties of smugglers and foreign exchange manipulators and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I introduce the Bill.

12.09 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. SMUGGLERS AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE MANIPULATORS (FORFEITURE OF PROPERTY) ORDINANCE, 1975

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): I lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Smugglers

---

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 12-1-76.

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee]

and Foreign Exchange Manipulators Forfeiture of Property) Ordinance, 1975 as required under rule 71(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

12.10 hrs ..

SALES PROMOTION EMPLOYEES (CONDITIONS OF SERVICE) BLL—*Contd.*

MR. SPEAKER The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri K. V Raghunatha Reddy on the 9th January, 1976, namely.—

"That the Bill to regulate certain conditions of service of sales promotion employees in certain establishments, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration"

श्री राम सिंह भाई (इदौर) : श्रीमन्, मैं इस विधेयक का हृदय से स्वागत करता हू क्योंकि इस धंधे मे काम करने वाले श्रमिकों के लिये अभी ऐसे कोई नियम नहीं थे और इस उद्योग के मालिकों को खुली छूट दे रखी थी। लेकिन दुख के साथ कहना पडता है कि काफी प्रयत्न करने के बाद भी बहुत देरी मे यह बिल लाया गया है। मैं इस बिल की कुछ खामियों की तरफ मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हू ।

पहली बात तो यह है कि जब इतने सालों के बाद यह बिल लाया गया तो फिर राज्यों को बाद मे अमल की भिन्न-भिन्न तारीखे निश्चित करने का अधिकार क्यों दिया गया? जब आप बिल लाये है तो आपको इस में ही शामा कर देना चाहिये था कि फला तारीख से इस बिल पर अमल होगा । मै अनुभव के तौर पर कह रहा हू कि राज्य सरकारों द्वारा अमल की तारीखे निश्चित करने में सालों गुजर जाते है और उन की तरफ से यही जवाब मिलता है कि हमे स्टाफ की व्यवस्था करनी है और उस दर्मियान में उद्योग के मालिकों को जितनी भी काट छाट करनी होती है वह कर लेते हैं । पिछले अधिवेशन में ही इस बिल पर चर्चा होने वाली थी और कार्यक्रम की सूची पर भी आ गया था, हालांकि राज्य सभा इसे पास कर चुकी थी, मंत्री जी से भी चर्चा हुई थी कि आप ने जो वेतन की मर्यादा 750 रु० रखी है यह बहुत कम है, उस का कारण यह है कि जो विक्रय करने वाले कर्मचारी है वह श्रमिक नहीं है बल्कि पढ़े लिखे ग्रेजुएट है और इस काम के भी माहिर होते है उन्ही को इस मे रखा जाता है । 750 रु० उन की वेतन की मर्यादा रखना उन के साथ मजाक है । जो छोटे मोटे उद्योग वाले है जिन मे कम वेतन वाले लोग होते है उन पर यह बिल लागू हो जायगा, लेकिन जो बडे बडे कारखानेदार है इस व्यवसाय के और उन के जो वेतन वगैरह है वह 750 रु० से ज्यादा होते है, उन को इस से कोई फायदा नहीं होगा, कोई ग्रेचटी बोनस नहीं मिलने वाला है । क्योंकि आप ने बोनस की मर्यादा 1600 तक रखी है बैंक आदि में भी यही रखी है । तो जो 750 रु० की मर्यादा रखी है यह एक तरह से मजाक की बात है क्योंकि अधिकांश लोग 750 रु० से ज्यादा वेतन पाते है ।

दूसरी बात यह है कि ई०एस०आई० के अन्दर जो बिना पढे लिखे श्रमिक है जो झाड़ू लगाते है उन के लिये भी आप ने 1,000 रु० की मर्यादा रखी है । पेमेन्ट आफ वेजेज ऐक्ट के अन्दर भी 1,000 रु० की मर्यादा रखने जा रहे है जो बिल को सदन के सामने है । इसलिये इन बातों को देखते हुए इस बिल पर ज्यादा चर्चा की जरूरत नहीं है, कोई ऐसी बात नहीं है जिस की नुक्ताचीनी की जाय । प्रमुख बात यह है कि इस को एक ही तारीख से सारे देश में लागू करना चाहिये । वेतन की जो मर्यादा 750 रु० रखी है इस को बढा कर 1,000 रु० के ऊपर रखी जानी चाहिये । मंत्री जी कहेंगे कि इस के बारे में हम विचार करेंगे । हमने देखा है कि ऐसे

वायदे हम से बहुत किये गये हैं, लेकिन उन को पूरा नहीं किया गया। वर्कमैन्स कम्पेन्सेशन ऐक्ट को देख कर हमें परेशानी होती है क्योंकि कारखानों के अन्दर जो लोग दुर्घटनाओं से मर रहे हैं उन के परिवारों को मुआवजा नहीं मिल रहा है, क्योंकि वर्कमैन्स कम्पेन्सेशन ऐक्ट के अन्तर्गत 500 रु० की मर्यादा रखी है। आज 500 रु० केवल डी०ए० ही हो गया है। बिना पढ़ा लिखा मजदूर भी 500 रु० से ज्यादा पा रहा है, उन पर यह ऐक्ट लागू नहीं हो रहा है। यह ऐक्ट अंग्रेजों के जमाने में बनाया गया था, तब से हालात बहुत बदल गये हैं जिन की वजह से यह ऐक्ट सब से पिछड़ा हुआ हो गया है। आज लोग कारखानों में काम करते मर रहे हैं लेकिन उन को इस ऐक्ट का कोई फ़ायदा नहीं मिल रहा है। इसलिये यह आश्वासन कि बाद में विचार करेंगे इस से संतोष नहीं होता। हम जानते हैं कि आप हमारे सुझाव को मानने वाले नहीं हैं। अगर मानने वाले होते तो बीच की अवधि में स्वयं संशोधन रख सकते थे। फिर भी आशा है कि आप इस पर विचार करेंगे और इसे राज्य सभा वापस भेजेंगे ताकि संशोधन कर के 1,000 रु० से अधिक वेतन की मर्यादा रखी जाये।

SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE (Bombay Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a pity that even though the medical representatives in this country have been demanding for years together that they should be covered by the Industrial Disputes Act as workmen, today, you have just played a hoax on them. Even after 28 years of Independence, they are not protected and after just making a show that you are going to help them you had cut their throats. In fact, it would have been better if you had not done it. But, after doing it you have done a thing by which you are not going to cover even 20 per cent of the medical representatives in this country. I do not know who has supplied you with all kinds of statistics. I do not know whether for their intellectual satisfaction, they were giving you all kinds of statistics or what.

It you had gone into the real pay scales and the system under which the medical representatives are paid, you would not have introduced such a kind of ceiling, where no medical representative would be covered by this. For instance, today, there are 20,000 medical and sales representatives in this country. You would be covering hardly 20 per cent. Secondly, Sir, the total sales turnover of the multinational companies in this country is Rs. 370 crores and out of this, 70 per cent is accounted for by the multinational companies of the drug industry. But they hardly spend 5 per cent on the salaries etc. of the medical and sales representatives. What do they get? Even an ordinary clerk in a monopoly concern in the drug and pharmaceutical industry gets more than Rs. 1200—1300. Here, you are imposing a ceiling and say that inclusive of DA and basic wage, it should be Rs. 750. If a person is employed on commission, the ceiling is Rs. 9,000. I do not know by what method you have calculated this and by what arithmetic you have worked out this ceiling. As my friend has said, you could have increased the ceiling. You have increased it in the ESI scheme. You are doing it in the Payment of Wages Act. What is wrong here? Are not they workers? What do they get? You can very well imagine the plight of the medical representatives. They have to work for 10-12 hours a day. They get hardly Rs. 20—25 by way allowance. They are not the affluent section of industrial workers. They have to slog along. The way the drug and pharmaceutical concerns are treating these medical workers, we thought you would come to their help but instead of helping them, you are stabbing them in the back. I know the Minister is not going to yeild to any of our representations or respond to our speeches. do not know how the medi-

[Smt Roza Deshpande]

cal workers would be able to show their protest against these restrictions on the part of Government

I would have really given you full statistical data of how the medical workers are paid You have not even split the emoluments Somewhere DA is linked up But DA fluctuates With this at a certain time, it is within the specified Rs 750 At any time the DA goes up and the total emoluments increase, the next month that worker will not be covered by this If you could understand what I mean, the fluctuation in the DA will always change the status of these medical representatives To the majority of the medical workers even in the smaller Indian sector, any employer will just say 'today you are being given 750 salary' Finished He is out of this He has no protection whatsoever These multi-nationals have been cutting the throats of these medical workers for such a long time giving them no facilities The employers have no norms somewhere there is commission somewhere there is basic pay plus DA, somewhere there is total salary, somewhere they ges some kind of allowance Why could you not say that there should be a certain amount as basic salary instead of giving this grand total of Rs 750? By what calculation have you come to this? Have you taken a general review of what the medical workers are earning, what are they getting, how are they protected, what bonus do they get? They do not get bonus Somewhere they give incentive This incentive also fluctuates With all that, making such a grand gesture or helping the medical workers, you bring forward this kind of Bill At this rate, I do not know what way you are going to protect the workers in this country This whole drug industry is in the hands of multi-nationals who spend lakhs and crores on advertisements alone These are the medical workers who propagate their drugs How are you going to please them, protect them? Those who are going out to propagate the petty formulations of these monopolists in this industry do not get even 5 per cent of what these monopolists spend on advertisements in terms of their salary and remuneration With all that, you have brought forward this Bill I am very sorry I cannot say anything more about it But I would not surely vote in favour of this Bill I would rather abstain

SHRI K GOPAL (Karur) Mr ker I am happy to take part in the discussion on this Bill not because it is in the form in which I desire but because as one who belonged to the clan of salesmen once, I am happy to see some Bill has come at last Mrs Roza Deshpande pointed out the difficulties of medical representatives As one who has spent a substantial part of my youth as a salesman I would say one thing I request the hon Minister to be considerate in the provisions of the Bill This Bill has been brought forward after the judgement of the Supreme court two years ago regarding the working conditions of medical representatives Then the Committee of petitions of Rajya Sabha went into this matter and they said that something should be done for the benefit of medical representatives and the salesmen in general so that they might be covered by the Labour Acts I am sorry to say that in the form in which it has come the present Bill is not going to help any body Clause 1(4) says that it shall apply in the first instance to every establishment engaged in the pharmaceutical industry I am happy about it so far as it goes But why should it apply only to them? I concede that the subsequent clause gives power to extend it to other industries I am not happy because it is going to benefit only twenty per cent of the medical representatives Is it because only the crying babies are to be fed Only those who demand things get them? Do not the salesmen of other industries deserve consideration? You could have brought other industries also under this at the same stroke

Secondly, Rajya Sabha had stated that the ends of social justice to that class of people demand a suitable amendment to the definition of the term workmen under the Industrial Disputes Act so that the medical representatives were also covered by the term 'definition' in the said Act...

The Working Journalists Act has been suitably modified. But you say here that the total emoluments should not exceed Rs. 750. If there is an increase of Rs. 10 in my total emoluments and I get Rs. 760 in one month, I will cease to be workman for that month. If there is a reduction of my total emoluments to Rs. 740 in a month. I will be treated as a workman. I do not understand this. Why should you keep a ceiling at all? The very purpose of the Bill will be defeated. More than 75 per cent of the medical representatives in the country are getting total emoluments exceeding Rs 750; so this Bill is going to benefit hardly 25 per cent of the people and within a couple of years perhaps they will also exceed that limit. I have given an amendment to clause (1) (iv) and (iv) and I do not konw whether the hon Minister will agree to that Unless you remove the ceiling the Bill will not meet the ends of justice. Even during the last session when this Bill was being introduced we represented to the hon. Minister and to the Prime Minister also. They did not give any assurance. But we were fondly hoping that the ceiling clause would be removed. I request the hon. Minister not to stick to the ceiling clause but to accept our amendments.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): Sir, I fully share the views expressed by my colleague Mr. Gopal and also Mrs. Deshpande. This Bill has been brought forward by the Government because of the report of the Petitions Committee and the judgement of the Supreme Court. I am afraid that the spirit in the above two documents is not contained in this Bill. I should like to ask one basic question: What is the logic behind the ceiling? There must be some logic when you are introducing a law. What is the rationale behind the fixation of the ceiling at 750? Will it cover the majority of the workers or not? It is with my knowledge—I do not know if the hon. Minister can refute what I say with statistics—that with this ceiling, the Bill will benefit only about 20 per cent of the workers. I do not want to go into more details. We have arrested smugglers and tax evaders and black marketeers Still those people who have a monopoly grip on the drug industry are scot free.

Now, you have to arrest those people. We the Members of Parliament do not know the value of the medicines. I know that people have to pay so much money for the medicines as per the prescription given by a doctor. The drug manufacturers are making the highest profit. They are making a profit of 400 per cent out of which they spend about 25 per cent on advertisements alone. Such an industry with high profit can easily take interest in the workers who are about 20,000 or 25,000. These workers for a long time have been claiming for security and other facilities I have written a letter to the hon. Labour Minister in this connection. I have also written a letter to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra in regard to the termination of the services of the Union Secretary of this industry. But so far nothing could be done. The hon. Minister could not influence these drug companies in this regard. So, I fully support the amendment which my hon. friend moved that the ceiling must be taken away. Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether this ceiling would cover a majority of the workers. As Shrimati Roza Deshpande pointed out, the income of workers has gone up. The medical representatives have to go to field work neatly dressed in suits costing about Rs. 300 or Rs .400 and to maintain these things they have to be paid more. Today in cities like Bombay, Delhi

[Shri Vayalar Ravi]

or Calcutta, the cost of living is so much that the ceiling of Rs. 750 would hardly cover these workers Sir I do not want to go into detail. We about 18 to 20 Members have given a note to the Minister expressing our concern over this matter So, Sir, if the ceiling is not taken away, this bill will serve no purpose Therefore, I would request the hon Minister to please consider the views expressed by the hon Members and remove the ceiling and help a majority of the workers of this industry

SHRI AMIT NAHATA (Barmer) Mr Speaker, Sir, I am afraid I am going to strike a discordant note even at the risk of being misunderstood by the Trade Union leaders on that side and on this side I am not opposed to white-collar trade unionism I am not opposed to elitist trade unionism Shrimati Roza Deshpande mentioned at the end of her speech about this but she could not reconcile her demand with those analyses Who are the most of the medical agents? Who are the most of the pharmaceutical salesmen? They are brilliant young men They are M Scs and B Scs They are qualified chemists and persons who have the capacity to persuade the buyers They are very good salesmen There is no doubt about it But what are they contributing to the society? I am afraid, Sir, there is no better or a worse example than the most useless unproductive and worthless employment than this It is as if this country is very healthy as if the people of this country do not need medicines and as if there is a great need for pushing and selling these products in the market that an army of salesmen are required to persuade and bribe the doctors and they are competing with one another because the same product is sold with one hundred names And similarly with different combinations and permutations, they create different brand names and there are exceptionally high doses of vitamins and high dose of unnecessary drugs in innumerable tonics and most of these salesmen and pharmaceutical representatives are employed by the multi-national corporations. The Indian sector of pharmaceutical industry cannot afford to employ these agents

Most of them are employees of foreign drug firms who conduct no R&D on the drugs They conduct R&D only in market mechanism and salesmanship These medical agents are only cogs in the wheel of their market mechanism and publicity. These young brilliant men should have been really engaged in manufacturing those drugs or in conducting research on them, but they are now being used in a very wasteful capacity As individuals I have sympathy for them But do they realise that unless these multi-national cartels are taken over, they cannot contribute to the national wealth? If that realisation dawns on them, I would support them Merely demanding trade union rights for them and that they should be treated as workmen does not solve the problem If the selling agents of the Indian sector are to be treated as workmen I would support it because every often they have to face stiff competition from the foreign cartels But I have no sympathy for this class of agents as a whole and I cannot understand the demand for raising their emoluments from Rs 750 to 1000 or 1500 I fail to understand the rationale of this demand

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore) Sir I am really astonished to hear the speech of my friend Shri Nahata I think he would be better advised to agitate inside the party to which he belongs that multi-national cartels are not allowed to carry out depredations in the country, instead of that, he is attacking the employees

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA: I am not

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Salesmen are also employees. According to his argument, a worker in a multi-

national factory who helps in the production of the drug is equally at fault as the man who is promoting its sales. Anyway, I would welcome Mr. Nahata agitating a bit inside his party to see that the doors are closed to the further entry of multi-nationals Instead of that, he is wraking vengeance on the wretched sales employees! I can not understand his logis at all!

The purpose of this Bill is not to increase anybody's emoluments. The purpose is only to extend to this class of employees the protection ensured to others under various labour statutes. That is all. Therefore, I want to know from the Government the logic by which they propose to bring certain categories determined according to their emoluments within this legal protection and to exclude others. We know many of these sales employees nowadays are women. May I take it that if a woman is earning Rs. 749 she is entitled to maternity benefit, but if she is earning Rs. 800 she is not? What is the idea in the government's mind?

I know they have brought forward this Bill most reluctantly having been compelled to do so by (a) the judgment of the Supreme Court and (b) the agitation being carried on by these employees for many years. These two pressures have ultimately brought them very reluctantly to introduce this Bill. Having brought forward this Bill which is a good thing in principle which we welcome, they act just like a baniya, with the mentality of a baniya. High expectations were aroused among all sales promotion employees in the country that at last they were going to get some justice and get some legal protection. But I think if this Bill goes through as it is, the effect is going to be most demoralising and it is going to act as a further irritant to these employees. Certainly this is not the way that the Government will earn the goodwill of these employees.

Mr. Nahata says that he would like to see the employees of smaller Indian firms protected. But I feel that this Bill as it is now defined here, will, to some extent, protect only those employees, which is good because the small and medium scale Indian firms which also employ sales promotion employees though in fewer number generally pay less and their employees may come under this ceiling. Precisely the people who are being protected are the employers of the bigger firms and not the employees. It is precisely monopoly and multi-national firms who, out of the huge profits are able to pay slightly higher emoluments to their sales promotion employees and it is those employers who are sought to be protected by this Bill by fixing the ceiling in such a way that majority of the employees who are earning more than Rs. 750/- will be excluded from coverage so that they will be denied this legal protection. So, this is the other way round. I have got a suspicion that some very active lobbying has been done perhaps behind the scene by these very powerful monopoly pharmaceutical concerns who send us a lot of literature from time to time. I have every suspicion that this OPPI which is a big organised consortium of these pharmaceutical drug firms in this country dominated by the foreign multi-nationals, has done considerable lobbying with the Government to see that the definition of ceiling is made in such a way that the overwhelming majority of their employees are excluded. It is only the employees coming under the small Indian firms who may be covered by this. Well and good if they have the majority but the majority is somewhere else. Therefore, I do not want to say much on this but I feel that this is a Bill were you will find that cutting across party loyalties, the overwhelming majority of Members here in this House are totally opposed to the way this ceiling has been laid down because what it gives with one hand,

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

it takes away with the other. Therefore, we have pleaded with the Government and there was sufficient time between the passing of this Bill in the Rajya Sabha and introducing it here. We went in a deputation to the Prime Minister—Members belonging to all parties in this House—we pleaded with her and we explained to her and she told us that she would look into this matter. Now, we find that the Bill has come in the same old un-amended form, apparently the Government is determined not to change a fullstop or comma. Well, they are welcome; they are running the country, they can go ahead and do whatever they like. But let them not think that this is the way they can enlist the support and enthusiasm of the working people in this country. They are only handing these people to the reactionary forces of this country. Let them think of that. The political responsibility rests with this Government. They are giving ammunition to reactionary forces to go and instigate and win over these people to their side and say what the Government has done. This is what they will tell them. Therefore, I do not know whether there is any use of making any plea, but I would plead with the Government that even at this stage the heavens will not fall if this ceiling is removed and legal protection is extended to all the sales promotion employees working not only in the pharmaceutical industries, as other friends have pointed out, but to industries manufacturing toilet goods, soaps, tooth pastes, they are also sending sales promotion employees about. Why do they not apply it to sales promotion employees to whichever industry they may belong? Why have they confined it here only to the pharmaceutical industries? All the powers have been taken to notify other industries. What is the idea? Sales promotion employees are sales promotion employees. The point is whether they should be covered by the Industrial Disputes Act, Maternity Benefit Act, Payment of Bonus Act and Payment of Gratuity Act and whether they should get certain leave facilities and so on. That is all. I think it is a very elementary thing which is being asked for. In every country, as far as I know—and we pride ourselves on the fact that we are becoming an industrially developing country and so on—certainly the provisions of such legal enactments are extended to cover all the people who are working there. I could understand it if this definition would entail some sort of higher emoluments being given. Nothing like that is envisaged here. Why are you, in this individious way, discriminating among these employees. And, as has been pointer out, an anomalous situation will arise. In one month, I am an employee according to this Act; and after two months, I am not an employee any more; and again after 2 months I become an employee, because the D.A. variations will bring me either within or outside the ceiling of the bill. Let us understand why exactly Government is doing like this. Why is it having this cussed outlook? I do not understand their behaving like Shylock. I am afraid we will be compelled to oppose this bill, if it is sought to be put through in this form. There is no meaning. They are doing just the opposite of what they are wanting to do. I would like the Minister to clarify. I know this must have gone through the Cabinet. I do not know how many members of the Cabinet have really given their mind and understood the implications of it. There is still time. We should not stand on dignity and all that. We can postpone the final consideration of the bill for a day or two. You can think over the matter and you can bring it again here. Government should not stand on a false sense of prestige. That is what I would submit.

श्री मूल चन्द डागा (पाली) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, श्रम मंत्री ने जो बिल उपस्थित किया है, मैं समझता हूं कि वह लागू नहीं होगा । इसमें सभी प्रावीजन्स में "एज प्रैस्क्राइब्ड" की बात कही गई है, सब पावर्स स्टेट्स को दी गई हैं, और इस बारे में कोई डेट भी फिक्स नहीं की गई है तो फिर यह बिल कैसे लागू होगा ? सभी माननीय सदस्य लेबर मिनिस्टर को धन्यावाद कर रहे हैं, उनकी तारीफ कर रहे हैं, मगर मेरे ख्याल में इसको लागू करने में दो साल लगेंगे आप इसकी क्लाजिज को देखिए ।

Let the Labour Minister kindly hear me and try to read the clauses of the Bill, Section 8(1) says:

"The State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette appoint such persons as it thinks fit

Again, Section 2(2)(d) says that such Inspectors well "exercise such other powers as may be prescribed." The qualifications of the Inspectors will be prescribed.

इसके अलावा अगर एम्प्लायर इंस्पैक्टर को डाक्यूमैंट न दिखाये तो क्या प्रावीजन होगा ? इसमें लिखा है कि--

Rules are to be framed and the States will take powers to appoint those Inspectors. When are you going to enforce this bill?

कोई लिमिट नहीं है कि कितने टाइम में डाक्यूमेंट दिखायेगा ।

If an Inspector wants to see the documents within a short time. What is the limit?

मजिस्ट्रेट को पनिश्मैट की पावर है । क्या यह समरी ट्रायल होगी या बाकायदा ट्रायल होगी ? मजिस्ट्रेट को ट्रायल करने में एक साल लगेगा ।

If the offence is committed, who will be held responsible?

कंपनी के जितने मेम्बर होंगे, चाहे शेयरहोल्डर हों, य डायरेक्टर हों, सब जिम्मेदार होंगे ।

It is said under section 10(3)(a):

"For the purpose of this section—
(a) "company" means any body corporate and includes a firm or other association of individuals.

All must be held liable. Now, the burden will lie on us to prove. Why don't you hold only that person liable, who commits to mistake. or the offence?

Does the Law Department examine these Bills? No. That is the trouble. The Speaker has asked me to finish within two or three minutes. I will finish in half a minute. The question is how it is implemented. The way legislation is passed even a very good Bill is turned into a bad Act. Nobody applies his mind to the question as to what are the provisions and how they are enforced. It is left to the discretion of the executive. They will frame their own rules, which will take years, and then they will be enforced. At that time, they will say "we want to make some chanes". I do not know why they are not appreciting this. The spirit of the Bill is all right. But what is most important is how it is implemented. If the provisions of the Bill stand as they are, I do not think the intentions of the Bill can be achieved.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): I am very thankful to the hon. Members who have participated in the debate on this Bill and extended their whole-tearted support though with some reservation in certain cases.

[Shri Raghunatha Reddy]

At the very outset, I would like strongly to repudiate the suggestion made by Shri Indrajit Gupta with reference to pressures being brought on the Government or being built up by some other agencies. Shri Ramavatar Shastri and Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya wanted the coverage of the Bill to be extended to all the employees in the pharmaceutical side, whether engaged in sales, production or distribution. Regarding this point I may mention that the intention of the Government is not providing minimum protection to the weaker sections of the employees. W eare not at present having such protection, and those who are engaged in production or distribution are already covered by the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act or the Shops and Establishments Act of the States. Sales promotion employees who are not covered by the existing enactments are sought to be given minimum legal protection.

A major point that has been agitated by various members here is with regard to the limit. Hon. Members wanted the deletion of the provision in the Bill relating to salary limit or enhancing this limit. It is not without consideration or thought being given to this that this provision has ben limited to a particular salery limit or remuneration limit. This aspect has been examined thoroughly and, though I do not want to enter into any controversy with regard to the social philosophy of elitist trade unionism which my hon. friend Shri Amrit Nahata has mentioned, or the other criticisms which have been mentioned by other hon. Members, I can say without any hesitation that considerable thought has been given to this aspect and it has been decided by the Government that the limit can be fixed for this purpose in order to give protection to such class of persons with such salary limits, so that such class of persons may have the necessary benefits by way of proection and others many have the necessary wherewithal to protect themselves without the provisions of law. Well, in the future, if an occasion arises and if it is found to be absolutely necessary to give protection to such persons even beyond this limit, such a suggestion would certainly be considered. Government will not feel hesitant to consider such suggestions. But for the time being it is felt that such persons are capable of protecting themselves without the help of the law. Therefore, we thought that people getting only about Rs. 750 as salary or remuneration should be protected by bringing them within the purview of the law. That is the whole philosophy behind this law, of protecting the weaker sections, whether they belong to the white-collar elitist trade union section or otherwise.

SHRI K. GOPAL (Karur): Does this ceiling apply to the other people also? For the others, it is Rs. 1,000. We have peons who are getting Rs. 900.

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: I may tell the hon. Member that the Industrial Disputes Act is of a different character and does not cover sales representatives. If it was such a simple proposition, we could have amended the definition of the industrial Disputes Act in regard to "workman", instead of bringing special legislation for this purpose.

Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya suggested a special provision for protecting the annual bonus for certain classes of industrial workers in this country. I need not refer to it because when the provisions of the bonus law and various other laws are extended to given benefit to this class of persons, they will be covered by them.

So far the question of the definition of the term "representative" raised by Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya

and other friends is concerned, the term "sales promotion employee" is already defined in the Bill and all those who are engaged in work relating to sales promotion or business of that kind are covered subject to other conditions being satisfied. It is, therefore, not considered necessary to separately define the term "representative".

I can assure my hon. friend Shri Daga that we will try to appoint a date for bringing this law into force as early as possible, as soon as we make the necessary arrangements for the purpose of enforcing this law. I have no doubt about it that the purpose is to enforce law and that it will be done with as much expedition as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: The quesetion is:

"That the Bill to regulate certain conditions of service of sales promotion employees in certain establishments, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

Clause 2

(*Definitions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Clause 2, Amendments.

SHRI K. GOPAL: In view of the hon. Minister's assurance that he will look into the matter, I am not moving my amendment.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I beg to move:

'Page 2,—

"*omit* lines 9 to 18." '(2)

MR. SPEAKER: Amendment No. 3. Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya. Absent.

SHRI RAMAVTAR SHASTRI (Patna): I beg to move:

'Page 1, lines 16 and 17,—

for "pharmaceutical industry or in any notified industry".

substitute—

"production, distribution, and or sales of drugs and pharmaceuticals partly or wholly or in any other notified industry" ' (7).

'Page 2, line 8,—

add at the end—

"who draws wages and commission or both" '(8).

MR. SPEAKER: Amendment Nos. 12, 13 and 14, Shri Saroj Mukherjee. Absent.

13.00 hrs.

श्री० रामावतार शास्त्री : मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि मंत्री महोदय ने वीकर सेक्शन का नाम ले कर के लोगों की ज़बान बन्द करने की कोशिश की है ।

बिक्री के सिलसिले में या प्रोडक्शन के सिलसिले में या डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन के सिलसिले में जितने भी लोग हों, वह कम तनख्वाह पाने वाले हों, साढ़े 700 से कम पाने वाले हों या ज्यादा पाने वाले हों, उन का वाटर टाइट कम्पार्टमेंट वनाने या उन में विभेद पैदा करने का ठेका सरकार ने कब से उठा लिया कि वह लोगों को आपस में लड़ाने की कोशिश करे ? क्या इस तरह की बात नहीं की जा रही है ? आप साढ़े 700 से नीचे वालों को वीकर सेकशन कहते हैं और ऊपर वालोंको उस से अलग करते हैं ।

दूसरी बात– यह सीलिंग क्यों रख रहे हैं ? आप ने देखा आप की पार्टी के लोगों ने आम तौर पर सीलिंग को अपोज़ किया है कि सीलिंग रखने की क्या जरूरत है ।

ये दोनों बड़े अहम सवाल हैं । यह आप उन के साथ दया नहीं कर रहे हैं । जैसा आप ने सुना यह आप को मजबूर हो कर करना

[श्री रामावतार शास्त्री]

पड़ रहा है और यह भी आप ने सुना कि अभी इस से फायदा शायद मुश्किल से 15–20 फीसदी एम्प्लाईज़ को होगा । आप बिल बना रहे हैं जिस में 80–90 फीसदी लोग छूट जाएंगे । तो इस तरह का कानून बनाने का क्या मतलब है ? यह केवल आंसू पोछने के नाम पर आप क्या कर रहे हैं ? ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोगों को फायदा हो ऐसा कानून बनाना चाहिए । आप तो कानून बना रहे हैं जिस से कम से कम लोगों को फायदा होगा । आप उन की यनिटी को ब्रेक कर रहे हैं । यह यूनिटी ब्रेक करने का जिम्मा सरकार ने कब से ले रखा है । उन की यूनिटी बनी रहनी चाहिए । आप सीलिंग बिल्कुल मत रखिए और साथ साथ जितने भी इस इंडस्ट्री से तालुल्क रखने वाले लोग हैं, केवल सेल्स रेप्रेजेन्टेटिव नहीं, तमाम लोगों को जो प्रोडक्शन करते हों या वितरण करते हों, सब को रखना चाहिए ।

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: I have already replied I am opposing it.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I put amendment No. 2 to the vote of the House.

The question is:—

'Page 2,—

"omit lines 9 to 18."' (2).

The Lok Sabha divided.

Division No. 4

13.07 hrs.

AYES

Bade, Shri R. V.
Bhattacharyya, Shri Jagadish
Chandra Shekhar Singh, Shri
Chandrappan, Shri C. K.
Chowhan, Shri Bharat Singh
Deb, Shri Dasaratha
Deshpande, Shrimati Roza
Gupta, Shri Indrajit
Haldar, Shri Madhuryya
Kathamuthu, Shri M.
'Madhukar', Shri K. M.
Manjhi, Shri Bhola
Narendra Singh, Shri
Parmar, Shri Bhaljibhai
Roy, Dr. Saradish
Sambhali, Shri Ishaque
Sen, Dr. Ranen
*Sharma, Shri Madhoram
Shastri, Shri Ramavatar
Singh. Shri D. N.

NOES

Aga, Shri Syed Ahmed
Austin, Dr. Henry
Azad, Shri Bhagwat Jha
Aziz Imam, Shri
Babunath Singh, Shri
Banerjee, Shrimati Mukul
Barman, Shri R. N.
Barua, Shri Bedabrata
Barupal, Shri Panna Lal
Bhagat, Shri H. K. L.
Bhargava, Shri Basheshwar Nath
Brahmanandji, Shri Swami
Buta Singh, Shri
Chakleshwar Singh, Shri
Chandrika Prasad, Shri
Chaturvedi, Shri Rohan Lal
Choudhury, Shri Moinul Haque
Daga, Shri M. C.
Dalbir Singh, Shri
Dalip Singh, Shri
Daschowdhury, Shri B. K.
Deo, Shri S. N. Singh
Dinesh Singh, Shri
Dhumada, Shri L. K.

*Wrongly voted for AYES.

Dwivedi, Shri Nageshar
Gavit, Shri T. H.
Gogoi, Shri Tarun
Gomango, Shri Giridhar
Gopal, Shri K.
Goswami, Shri Dinesh Chandra
Gotkhinde, Shri Annasaheb
Hari Kishore Singh, Shri
Hari Singh, Shri
Ishaque, Shri A. K. M.
Jagjivan Ram, Shri
Joshi, Shrimati Subhadra
Kadannappalli, Shri Ramachandran
Kureel, Shri B. N.
Laskar, Shri Nihar
Mahajan, Shri Vikram
Maharaj Singh, Shri
Majhi, Shri Kumar
Malaviya, Shri K. D.
Mallikarjun, Shri
Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram
Mishra, Shri Bibhuti
Mishra, Shri Jagannath
Munsi, Shri Priya Ranjan Das
Naik, Shri B. V.
Nimbalkar, Shri
Oraon, Shri Tuna
Pahadia, Shri Jagannath
Painuli, Shri Paripoornanand
Pandey, Shri Damodar
Pandey, Shri Krishna Chandra
Pandey, Shri Narsingh Narain
Pandey, Shri R. S.
Pandey, Shri Tarkeshwar
Panigrahi, Shri Chintamani
Pant, Shri K. C.
Paokai Haokip, Shri
Parashar, Prof. Narain Chand
Paswan, Shri Ram Bhagat
Patel, Shri Arvind M.
Peje, Shri S. L.
Pradhan, Shri Dhan Shah
Pradhani, Shri K.
Qureshi, Shri Mohd. Shafi
Raghu Ramaiah, Shri K.
Rai Shrimati Sahodrabai
Ram, Shri Tulmohan
Ram Prakash, Shri
Ram Singh Bhai, Shri
Ram Surat Prasad, Shri
Rao, Shri Jagannath
Rao, Dr. K. L.
Rao, Shri M. Satyanarayan
Reddy, Shri K. Kodanda Rami
Richhariya, Dr. Govind Das
Rudra Pratap Singh, Shri
Sarkar, Shri Sakti Kumar
Satpathy, Shri Devendra
Savitri Shyam, Shrimati
Sethi, Shri Arjun
Shafquat Jung, Shri
Shahnawaz Khan, Shri
Shankar Dayal Singh, Shri
Shankar Dev, Shri
Shankaranand, Shri B.
Sharma, Shri A. P.
Sharma, Shri Nawal Kishore
Sharma, Shri R. N.
Shastri, Shri Sheopujan
Shenoy, Shri P. R.
Shetty, Shri K. K.
Sinha, Shri Nawal Kishore
Sinha, Shri R. K.
Stephen, Shri C. M.
Sunder Lal, Shri
Swamy, Shri Sidrameshwar
Swaran Singh, Shri
Tayyab Hussain, Shri
Tula Ram, Shri
Vekaria, Shri
Verma, Shri Sukhdeo Prasad

Virbhadra Singh, Shri
Yadav, Shri Chandrajit
Yadav, Shri Karan Singh
Yadav, Shri R. P.

MR. SPEAKER: The result* of the division is:

Ayes: 20, Noes: 109.

The motion was negatived

MR. SPEAKER: I put amendments Nos. 7 and 8 moved by Shri Ram Avtar Shastri to the vote of the House.

Amendments Nos. 7 and 8 were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.
Clauses 3 to 5 were added to the Bill.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 7 to 12 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1

(Short title, extent commencement and application)

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: I beg to move:—

'Page 1, line 4,—

for "1975" *substitute* "1976"' (5)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

'Page 1, line 4,—

for "1975" *substitute* "1976"' (5)

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAMAVTAR SHASTRI: I beg to move:

'Page 1, line 10,—

for "pharmaceutical industry" *substitute*—

"Production, distribution and/or sales of drugs and pharmaceutical partly or wholly"' (6)

MR. SPEAKER: I put Amendment No. 6 moved by Shri Ramavatar Shastri to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 6 was put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed"

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: We now adjourn for lunch to meet again at 2.15 p.m.

13.15 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fifteen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at Eighteen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

*Shri Madhoram Sharma also recorded his vote for NOES.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*

ELECTION LAWS (EXTENSION TO SIKKIM) BILL

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: we take up the Election Laws (Extension to Sikkim) Bill. Dr. Seyid Muhammad.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD): Sir, I beg to move:*

> "That the Bill to provide for the extension of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, to the State of Sikkim, be taken into consideration."

The Bill is of a non-controversial nature. As the House is aware, by the Constitution (Thirty-Sixth Amendment) Act, 1975 which came into force on the 26th April, 1975, Sikkim has become a constituent unit of India as the 22nd State in the Indian Union. Section 3 of that Act inserted a new article 371F in the Constitution to provide *inter alia* that the sitting Members of the Assembly for Sikkim formed as a result of the elections held in Sikkim in April, 1974, shall be deemed to be the Members of the Legislative Assembly of the State of Sikkim duly elected under the Constitution, that until other provisions are made by Parliament by law, there shall be allotted to the State of Sikkim one seat in the House of the People and that the representative of that State in the existing House of the People shall be elected by the Members of the Legislative Assembly aforesaid. Section 4 of that Act amended the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution to allot one seat in the Council of States to that State.

With a view to giving effect to the provisions of the Constitution (Thirty-Sixth Amendment) Act, 1975, it was decided, in consultation with the Election Commission that the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, should be extended, with necessary modifications to the State of Sikkim. As Parliament was not in session and as it was necessary to extend those Acts so that the representatives of the State of Sikkim in Parliament could be elected without delay, the President promulgated on September 9, 1975, the Election Laws (Extension to Sikkim) Ordinance, 1975. This Bill seeks to replace that Ordinance.

I commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR DEPUTLY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

> "That the Bill to provide for the extension of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act, 1951, to the State of Sikkim, be taken into consideration."

Shri Ranen Sen:

DR. RANEN SEN (Barasat).: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Minister stated, this is a non-controversial Bill and I do not have much to speak on this Bill. I was thinking that while speaking, I will quote from the Statement of Objects and Reasons but I find that the Minister has read out the Statement of Objects and Reasons from A to Z Therefore, Sir I would not do that.

Sir, it is a very good thing that now Sikkim is a part of India, a constituent unit of this Sovereign Republic of India One of the reasons to make Sikkim a part of India was to protect Sikkim from obnoxious political influence of reactionaries inside and outside the State of Sikkim. The object was to protect Sikkim from the influence of external agencies that were putting pressure on the State of Sikkim. This was one of the primary reasons, but the other reason was to

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Dr. Ranen Sen]

develop Sikkim so that Sikkim can come on par with other units and States of India. I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to the second point.

Now Sikkim being a part of India, naturally no external aggression or reactionaries will be tolerated there. I take it for granted that the Government of India will see that no such agencies operate inside Sikkim either from outside or from inside. As I said earlier, the other object was to develop Sikkim so that it comes at par with the other States of India. I come from a state which is a neighbouring State of Sikkim. I have, therefore, a little connection with Sikkim and we know a little bit of Sikkim. Sikkim is a very backward area; it has no industry, the agriculture there is more or less, primitive and the population is also a few hundred thousand. It is really a mountain State of India. It has very little connection with the rest of India; only through the district of Darjeeling, Sikkim can be approached from other States. Government of India should see that the people residing in their backward territory should feel that after coming to India, they have found a path of development and that the Government of India are helping the people of Sikkim to develop to improve their position by casting aside their old, rotton and outmoded mode of living and that Sikkim becomes a modern State. This is the desire of the people of Sikkim, I think, this position should be taken into consideration and the people there should feel satisfied, their conscience should be aroused.

There is another point. When Sikkim was outside India, and before this Constitution (Amendment) Bill was passed, there were posted in Sikkim a battery of official from Delhi whom generally people inside India called bureaucrats. For the running of administration a little amount of bureaucracy is necessary and inevitable and cannot be avoided, but in this new State of Sikkim, I would say that the Government of India should see that the rule of bureaucracy is wiped out, if not all at-once, but at least gradually and speedily so that democracy develops from inside the State of Sikkim, democracy develops on the basis of the genius of the people of Sikkim and that democratic traditions also grow in Sikkim because previous to the inclusion of Sikkim in India, it is known to everybody that a sort of a very reactionary monarchical political set up was there and the people wanted to get rid of that reactionary, monarchical out-moded obsolete and obscurantist political set up. Therefore, in this situation also it should be the look-out of the Government of India that democracy develops there on the basis of the genius of the people of Sikkim.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am sure you do not want all these to get into the present Bill.

DR RANEN SEN: But this is the background of the present Bill. It is because Sikkim is a part of India, not because India wants to grab Sikkim but because India wants to develop Sikkim as a part of India...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All that is known. We had a dissussion on this.

DR. RANEN SEN: I want to raise another point. In this connection, I want to stress that for the present it has been inevitable that one person should represent Sikkim who would be elected by the Sikkim Assembly one to Lok Sabha and another to the Rajya Sabha. I can understand it. Just for the present moment no other arrangement can be made, but, sooner this arrangement has to be changed and there should be proper election

on the basis of universal adult franchise to the Lok Sabha. And whatever arrangement is to be made in regard to Rajya Sabha, that can be thought over because there also indirect election takes place, but, here, the future representative to Lok Sabha should represent the people of of Sikkim in the sense that the people of Sikkim elect him on the basis of univeral adult franchise and secret ballot.

With these words, I commend the Bill.

DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD: There is not much to say in reply. The seniments which have been expressed and the opinion expressed by the hon Member that the constitution should not be imposed but should be allowed to develop—these are all vital points but are not strictly relevant to the Bill before us and so. I will not advert to them and take the time of the House...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You will be a wise man if you do it always.

DR. V. A SEYID. MUHAMMAD: With these words I would commend the time of the House....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What about popular elections? He has made only one relevant point.

DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD: That also is very relevant and an important factor. We will take that into consideration at the appropriate time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the extension of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Representation of the People Act 1951 to the State of Sikkim be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we will take up clause by clause consideration.

Now the question is:

"That Clauses 2, 3, the Schedule, Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2, 3, the Schedule, Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

DR V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD: I move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

14.29 hrs.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS (CONTROL) AMENDMENT BILL

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): I move:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947, be taken into consideration."

The provisions of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947, and the Orders made thereunder were enforced by the prosecution of the offender or by debarment of the offender from receiving import and export facilities for a specified period.

Our experience shows that the desired objective of the Bill could not be adequately realised because of the relative lenient character of the provisions of the Bill and in pursuance of the Prime Minister's twenty-point programme it was thought that economic offenders, particularly, the violaters of Export and Import Control Orders should be sternly dealt with. In view of that this Import and Export Control Act, 1947, in terms of an ordinance has been revised and certain new provisions have been inserted. The main purpose is to punish more effectively those who mis-utilise the imported goods in contravention of the conditions subject to which the import was allowed and secondly, to prevent mis-representation of facts in obtaining import licences or Letter of Authority and also to prevent unauthorised sale or acquisition of imported goods in contravention of conditions subject to which the import was allowed and also to effectively deal with the persons who abet or attempt to commit the offences which I have mentioned.

The proposed penal measures are—

1. The confiscate the imported goods in respect of any conditions of the licence or letter of authority or allotment with regard to the use of such goods or direction governing under the Import Control Order with regard to the sale of such goods has been or is attempted to be contravened.

2. To confiscate any conveyance which has been or is being used for the purpose of transporting those imported goods.

3. To enter the premises and inspect the goods and documents, to search the premises or to seize goods and documents.

We also propose to raise the penalty, not exceeding five times the value of the goods in question or Rs. 1,000 whichever is more.

We are also aware that when we equip the concerned administration with more power for dealing with the economic offenders, there is a possibility of misuse or power by the concerned authority. Therefore, necessary provisions have been made to see that review is possible and different hierarchies of authorities are prescribed so that necessary review, if and when called for, could be affected.

We have also made a provision that existing sentence—provision for two years should be enhanced and should be raised to three years and further to seven years if the amount involved, of imported goods, is not less than Rs. 10 lakhs.

To expedite the matter and to curtail the time taken in making ordinary judicial processes, some of the matters could be settled through adjudications also.

These provisions of the Ordinance had been promulgated because

Parliament was not in session. These are therefore, now before the august House for consideration.

The objectives are laudable and are in agreement with the views often voiced on the floor of the House, urging the Government to deal with the economic offenders very harshly. It is in pursuance of the desires of the House and twenty-point programme of the Prime Minister.

This provision is now before the House for consideration.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947, be taken into consideration."

SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE (Bombay Central): It is good that the Government has brought forward this Bill, which we welcome. At the same time, I would like to caution the Government in certain respects.

Sir, we know how the import and export licences have been used. We know how over-invoicing and under-invoicing is being done by various companies. It is being done on a very large scale. I would say that this over-invoicing and under-invoicing is the method by which black money is created. Lakhs and lakhs of rupees are concentrated in foreign banks in the name of so many monopoly houses. We have not been able to do anything in this regard. What I say is that we should be very serious in tackling these problems and we should be bent upon bringing cetrain measures to deal with these things; otherwise we will not be able to tackle the whole problem.

Sir, it is very easy to say a thing; but implementation needs very serious attention. We know the scale on which corruption is going on in every sphere of our lives. We should be very strict with regard to implementation of these measures. We know how licences are sold in the black market. I know especially about the Drug Industry, for instance, because, I come from the trade union of that industry. I can very well say that the licences are very easily sold at a very high price in the black market.

Sir, the question now is whether we will be able to dig out these things The Government authorities should not be pressurised by anybody. I say this because we know that there are pressures being brought by the monopoly houses in the country. We have already passed the Bill regarding sales promotion. Yes, but what happens? I can say that the monopoly houses have gained after the passing of such a Bill. It is not the workers who have got the benefit. That is why I say that even in regard to passing measures with regard to export and import business, we should really be very serious to see. that implementation is done properly. This is a very serious thing to be attended to. Government should pay more attention in this respect because, importing certain goods and selling them has become a business in this country. People want genuine things; nice things, for themselves. They want better cloth, they want better radio, they want better electrical gadgets and so on. In case of machinery also people prefer the foreign machinery, instead of the indigenous machinery. If these things are produced in our country and sold at reasonable price, then, people would not go for foreign articles. But, if there is a good foreign article, the person says, 'I will go in for it'. If there is some good Swiss thing, the person savs 'I will go in for it. Let me have that'.

How are we going to curb this? I know that we have to see that these

[Smt. Roza Deshpanda]

people use indigenous raw material and indigenous machinery. They have to use the indigenous things that are produced in this country. Licences should not be given to import such things which are available in the country. We have to seriously look into the matter. In the name of a certain product they find a loophole and they still go on importing the things. So, we have to be cautious and very alert as otherwise smuggling in the name of import is not going to be curtailed; it is not going to be stopped. We have to look to what we are producing and we should depend on our technology and should not go in for the import of technology from foreign countries What is needed is implementation of the provisions. We should rely on production that is inside the country. We must improve the quality of our own goods. We believe in buying things. Take for example radio. This can easily be produced in India instead of depending on the smuggled or imported radio, radiogram or things of that sort. We have to bring down the prices of these things. We should see that a better quality of cloth is produced in our country so that our people will be able to use it rather than using the imported nylon cloth etc., etc. for which the fibre alone is to be imported Can't we look into these things? While supporting this Bill I would say that we have to keep the basic difficult economy of ours in mind and, at the same time, we have to be vigilant so that there may not be any pressure on Government and on the monopoly sectors in this country. The monopoly can cheat the government; in fact, they are cheating throughout in the licence business and even in import and export business by induling in over-invoicing and under-invoicing They have built up a big empire by this method and by this sort of racketeering, the money that we are supposed to have in our country is lying somewhere else.

I wish the Minister a great success. After the Bill is passed, I hope he will implement it in the true spirit.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Sir, I find that the hon. lady Member is indicating just a little more in detail the views openly which I briefly mentioned in introducing the Bill. I entirely agree with her that there are some malpractices prevalent in the field of import and export That is precisely the reason why we think that the existing penal provisions are not sufficient. We propose to strengthen them and make them more stringent I also entirely agree with her that in implementation of it we should be very careful and proper steps should be taken to see that the implementation is equal to the objective we have in our view.

Keeping that thing in view we have already decided to strengthen the staff requirements for implementing the new provisions at the appropriate levels both the headquarters as also at the field levels, the office of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports is being strengthened and I can assure you and, through you, the House, that the Government will do whatever is possible to combat this menace of economic offences. We cannot do it only on our own or at this menace of economic offences. consumers who have some understandable weaknesses for some foreign goods, they will take appropriate steps to see that they purchase indigenous goods whenever they are available and they should not provide indirectly any incentive to the smugglers. So, Government will be doing its best by taking action under COFEPOSA and FERA and by other various economic measures to effectively combat the economic offences. We certainly seek the people's own orientation, motivation and cooperation also so as to make it more effective. Sir, I take note of the view expressed by the hon. lady Member.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we take up clause by clause consideration. The queestion is:

"That clauses 2 to 7 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 to 7 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added and to the Bill.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed"

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

14.45 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: RATE OF DIVIDEND PAYABLE BY THE RAILWAY UNDERTAKING TO GENERAL REVENUES.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House approves the recommendations made in paras 4, 5, 15, 16, 17 and 23 contained in the Eleventh Report of the Committee appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues as well as other ancillary matters in connection with the Railway Finance and General Finance which was presented to Parliament on 9th January, 1976.

"That this House further directs that the action taken by Government on the other recommendations made in this Report as well as in the Eighth and Ninth Reports; should be reported to the Committee."

Sir, based on the recommendations of the Acworth Committee 1920-21, Railway Finance were separated from General Finance by a Resolution of the then Central Legislature in September 1924. The Resolution known as Separation Convention prescribed the rate of contribution to be made by the Railways to the General Revenues to be worked out on the basis of the capital-at-charge of the Railways and the working results of the Commercial Lines.

The Railway Convention Committee, 1949, the first such Committee to meet after Independence, had a fresh look at these arrangements and recommended the concept of a fixed dividend which the Railways should pay to the General Finance on the loan capital invested in the undertaking as computed annually. This was approved by the Parliament. The Convention Resolution is reviewed periodically once in five years. Accordingly, the relationship between Railway Finance and General Finance as spelt out by the 1949 Committee was reviewed by the Railway Convention Committee set up in 1954, 1960, 1965 and 1971. These initial financial arrangements have undergone modifications in the light of the changing circumstances, though the

[Shri Mohd. Shafi Qureshi]

basic concept that the Railways should pay a fixed dividend to General Revenue still holds.

With the economic development of the country on a planned basis under the sucessive Five Year Plans, a practice has been adopted to set up Railway Convention Committees whose recommendations regulating the payment of dividend by the Railways to the General Revenues, etc., will also conincide with the Five Year Plans. Such an arrangement has much to commend itself since it enables the Railways to assess the resources that would be available with them during a particular Plan period and to regulate their programme for rehabilitation, development and expansion of the Railway system accordingly.

The recommendation of the Railway Convention Committee, 1971, covered the Fourth Five Year Plan period 1969-74. Apart from issues such as the payment of dividend by the Railways to the General Revenues and connected financial matters, that Committtee had gone very deely into various aspects of Railway working such as Accounting Matters, Suburban Services, Commercial and Allied Matters and Requirement and Availability of Wagons. The recommendations made by that Committee have been carefully examined and most of them have been implemented.

The Railway Convention Committee, 1973, was constituted by this House in May, 1973 to determine the dividend payable by the Railway Revenues to the General Revenues and other connected matters during the Fifth Plan period, 1974-79. The Committee has already done and is continuing to do most valuable work. They presented an Interim Report in December 1973 and Sixth Report in December 1974 governing the financial arrangements applicable during the first two years of the Plan viz. 1974-75 and 1975-76. These recommendations which were adopted by this House were taken into account in framing the Railway Budget Estimates for these two years. They have also extensively reviewed the action taken by Government on various recommendations of the Railway Convention Committee, 1971.

The Committee have now submitted furtner three Reports. These are the Eighth Report on the Railways' Fourth and Fifth Five-Year Plans, Ninth Report on Social Burdens on Railways and the Eleventh Report on the rate of dividend for 1976-77 and other ancillary matters.

In the Eighth Report, the Commit tee have examined the performance of the Railways during the Fourth and Fifth Plans, and made some pertinent observations regarding the technique of planning, the utilisation of assets, the capacities created for the movement of traffic etc. Their recommendations will be given the most careful consideration.

In the Ninth Report, the Committee have analysed in detail the impact, on their financial position, of the various social burdens which the Railways have to bear by way of retention of uneconomic passenger services and uneconomic branch lines, carriage of goods at below-cost rates etc. Almost everywhere the Railways are regarded not only as a commercial enterprise but also as a public utility undertaking catering to the needs of the community, and in the result, considerable social burdens have to be borne by them, in practically all countries. For this burden borne by them, Railway systems in several countries are compensated in some form or the other. The Committee have studied this complex and intricate problem most patiently and from all possible angles. While emphasising and very rightly, the need for the ensuring optimum utilisation of the railway assets created at the cost of public revenues, the Committee have made certain suggestions to provide relief to the Railways in certain areas. I am greatful to the Committee for the trouble

undertaken by them in this behalf. In the Eleventh Report, the arrangements as now in force concerning the rate of dividend payable to General Revenues connected financial matters have been recommended to be continued during the year 1976-77 also. The present arrangements envisage payment of dividend at 5.5 per cent (including 1 per cent representing payment to the States in lieu of the Passenger Fare Tax etc.) on the capital invested on the Railways up to 31-3-1964 and 6 per cent on the capital invested thereafter, subject to certain concessions. Considering the increasingly difficult financial position of the Railways and the growing indebtedness of the Railways to the General Revenues, the Committee have extended the additional relief by way of enhancing the remission of dividend payment on capital works-in progress from 25 per cent to 50 per cent for the entire Fifth Plan period. The Committee have also accepted the Railways' plea for meeting the cost of construction of staff quarters now met out of the Development Fund from Capital, dividend on such capital being payable only if Railways have surplus after discharging other dividend obligations. The additional amount of relief which will be admissible to the Railways on this account during these three years 1974—77 would amount to about Rs. 13 crores. The recommendations after adoption by the Parliament would be taken into account in preparing the Railway Budget for the year 1976-77.

I must express my gratefulness to the Chairman and other Members of the Committee for the arduous labour undertaken by them and for their sympathetic consideration of the Railways' problems.

With these words, I commend the Resolution for the consideration of the House.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Resolution moved:

"That this House approves the recommendations made in paras 4, 5, 15, 16, 17 and 23 contained in the Eleventh Report of the Committee appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway undertaking to General Revenues as well as other ancillary matters in connection with the Railway Finance and General Finance which was presented to Parliament on 9th January, 1976.

"That this House further directs that the action taken by Government on the other recommendations made in this Report, as well as in the Eighth and Ninth Reports, should be reported to the Committee".

I have only one name on this item. I hope Shri Samar Mukherjee would cooperate so that we may be able to dispose it of by 3 P.M.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (HOWRAH): Sir, my submission is that the debate on Chasnala is to start at 3 P.M. If you permit, the deate on this Resolution can take place the next day.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We have to utilise these five miniutes.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (ALIPORE): A number of Members have given their names. Probably, they did not anticipate that this will come so soon.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is my problem. Whenever I sit in the Chair, nobody anticipates that it will come. Anyway, we will take note of this.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Nobody complains of lack of progress. Everything is being disposed of in five minutes.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: This payment of dividend by the Railways to General Revenues is an old heritage carried forward from the British period. We have repeatedly expressed our views against it. In the name of social burden, during the British period, the big interests got all the benefits. They aslo benefited through undertaken by them in this behalf.

[Shri Samar Mukherjee]

this system of drawing a dividend from the Railways to General Revenues.

Now the economy of the Railways is not good, and to improve the health of the Railways, basic, thorough and fundamental changes in the system of running as well as administration are very essential. This requires serious thinking and an absolutely new outlook. The burden of the loss, the preparation of a so-called budget showing the loss as due to carrying the social burden, is virtually imposed on the railway workers and employees. The 1974 railway strike has brought this issue to the forefront in a naked form because the plea was that because the Railways are running at a deficit, we cannot accept the demands of the railwaymen even if they are just. Now the railwaymen are getting a pay scale much lower than that of the public sector undertakings and this issue is coming again and again to the forefront. But the reply of Government is in the negative: nothing can be done, because if we increase their wages, we give them benefits, there will be inflation, that will affect the price and consequently their existing income will be eroded. All these arguments given in a capitalist system are repeatedly vomitted to them But this is not the solution of the problem. That is why we have been repeatedly saying that the burden should be borne by the entire society and not by the Railways independently

We have repeatedly drawn attention to the concesions given to the big houses. Bamboo was being carried at a concessional rate to the Birla factory though in the last budget some of the concession was cut. Still big concessions are being given to these big houses, who have been enjoying these concessions from the old period, and the workers and employees are being tretated like slaves, and specially during the emergency when the question of discipline and more production as a slogan has acquired a new meaning. The conditions in the Railways are day by day worsening though an impression is being created now that the Railways are running on time and due to the emergency, there have been big improvements. Accidents are taking place. Personally, three weeks ago, I went from Madras to Kerala : . .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can continue later.

14.59 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. ACCIDENT IN THE CHASNALLA COAL MINES NEAR DHANBAD—*Contd.*

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Ranen Sen.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV): I just wanted to give the latest position. Perhaps that would help members participating in the debate. With your permission, Sir, I would take only two minutes.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You do not have to request. You can do that.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: In my last statement before the House, I had given the details available by that time and also the work going on. As I had made clear at that time, our whole attention at the moment is on two items, one, dewatering of the mines and second, relief being provided to the victims' families.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will take this as a continuation of your statement.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: Yes. I will take only two minutes.

15.00 hrs.

As I have stated earlier, we have to dewater about 110 million gallons from the mine. Till today we have been able to pump out about 73 million gallons and the level of water has gone down by 83 metres. (An Hon. Member: feet) 18 pumps were workng till last evening, including three Soviet pumps and the dewatering capacity installed is 11900 gallons per minute.

One difficulty we are facing is this. As the water level goes down, muck and other things are coming up and water is also polluted because of coal dust and other things. That is why there are certain interruptions in the pumping out of water and our experts along with the Soviet and Polish experts are trying to get over those difficulties.

In today's papers there was a news item which was creating a little confusion. River Damodar flows about 2000 metres away from Chasnalla shaft mine and is towards the tip side of the present works. Therefore, there is no possibility for the Damodar river water seepage. The fact is that the normal seepage in this mine is about one million gallons per day; that is taking place. We have put certain pumps as standbys so that if there are certain difficulties we can use those pumps. We are trying our best and we hope that it will take three or four days to clear up the first horizon depth; when we do that, then it will be clear how we can pump water from the second horizon.

We tried to take the service of the navy diver; he inspected the spot and found that it was risky in the present situation of the mine to go inside and therefore he was not able to go inside the mine.

We were trying to get the latest information by telephone and I am glad that just now we got some information about the position as it obtained today at 12 noon. 21 pumps had been installed with a capacity of 15200 gallons per minute. It says that 15 pumps were working with the capacity of 11900 gallons. 86 million gallons of water had been drained and the water level has come down by 97 feet. Three out of four Soviet pumps are working and the fourth one is being taken out for repairs; there were some troubles in that pump. Five submersible Polish pumps with a capacity of 450 gallons per minute are reported to have reached Calcutta and are on their way to Chasnalla. Further details are not yet available.

15.05 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The seepage rate is estimated at one million gallons per day, as already anticipated and there is no abnormal seepage as reported in newspapers. Sir, as I said, there is no fear of seepage from the nearby Damodar river. I thought that I should give this information to Members.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): These figures show the total amount of water which has been pumped out now per day. Is it more or less than the one million gallons which is seeping into the mine?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: We are pumping out the water. Now, the installed capacity for pumping out the water is 15,000 gallons per minute. It means that almost 15 million gallons per day are pumped out. The water which is coming through seepages is one million gallons per day. Sir, I can assure this House that round-the-clock work is going on. Every possible effort is being made. About 800 workers, engineers and experts are working there and the first priority, as I have said earlier, that we are giving is for dewatering the Chasnalla mine. Sir, I thought that this information may be useful to the House.

15.07 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE. ACCIDENT IN THE CHASNALLA COAL MINES NEAR DHANBAD

DR. RANEN SEN (Barasat): Sir, with a heavy heart and a heart full of anguish and emotion, I rise to speak on this Chasnalla disaster. It is actually not a disaster but a massacre of hundreds of miners. Sir, the Chasnalla tragedy should rouse the conscience of the people of India, the Government of India and the concerned Ministeries. The Chasnalla tragedy has roused the conscience of the country which is evident from the fact that ordinary people of India, trade unions, workers are contributing for the relief which is being provided to the families of those miners. I must also appreciate, first of all, the Bihar Government and also other State Governments who are trying to come to the help of the distressed families. The Government of India is trying to help them in many ways. Just now we have heard the report of how efforts are being made to dewater the submerged horizon. Sir, I also take this opportunity to thank he Governments of U.S.S.R. and Poland who came to the rescue of hose miners, in fact came to the help of the Indian people.

Sir, I will now come to the actual point. Sir, it is the worst disaster in he history of coal mines in India. It s said—rather it was said—that the umber of people involved in this would be 372. But I say that the number of people involved would be much more than 400. Why do I say this? There were 1100 people who were working in the pit under the mines. 00 of them were outside the mines t the time of the tragedy. So according to the simple arithmetic, the reaining 400 people were lost—let us ope they are safe and let us hope gainst hope. But according to the mple arithmetic, 400 people were nderground. Then, besides these reular workers, there were six conactors working in the Chasnalla Coal mine. Their number was not known. We do not know how many contract labourers went down or were sent down to the pit. Nobody knows. I am not going to refer to the newspaper reports for this. But there is a definite suspicion expressed by the officials that there were many contract labourers. The contract labourers are worse than cattle. Nobody cares for them. No register and no record is maintained for them. These contract labourers are used against the express recommendations of the Mine Safety Organisation. I will come to it later. Firstly, much more than 400 people are involved. Who are the owners of this colliery? IISCO. What is their record? In 1973 in this House we had more or less chastised Mr. Mohan Kumaramangalam for the accident that took place in Jitpur Colliery where 48 people died. An enquiry commission was set up under the chairmanship of Shri R. C. Dutt and some recommendations were made but none of them was implemented in any mine. This also was an IISCO mine.

What is the history of this mine? In the last 50 years, it has changed hands several times and abandoned. Long before when Mr. Mukherjee was a big man, he got a loan of Rs. 40 crores from the World Bank to modernise it. It was long back and so I cannot quote from any record I can quote only from the newspaper. Nobody knows what renovations were made, but the expert officer made a report to the IISCO Coal Division Director Board that one horizon of this mine should be abandoned at least. This has also appeared in the newspapers and has not been contradicted so far. Of course, enquiry will be made and truth will come out. But today I ask: In January 73, coal mines were nationalised. IISCO was taken over and along with that this captive mine also was taken over. At that time did the Steel & Mines Ministry find out whether any such report is there? They have experts. When a unit is taken over, a thorough examination is made. Did they find

out what is the position of this captive mine? Three years ago the Jitpur colliery disaster took place, which was also a captive mine under IISCO. Now the Chasnalla disaster has taken place. The responsibility lies squarely on the Steel & Mines Ministry for negligence and dereliction of duty. Human lives are not play things.

I would like to put the whole responsibility on the Energy Ministry and the Finance Ministry. I am not quite sure about this thing but I want to put before the Minister whether it is a fact that there was a report by the DGMS that number one horizon should not be worked. I know that the officer made that statement to the newspapers. Secondly, whether it is a fact that such de-watering before working up the horizon was recommended? Thirdly, when the contractor's labourers were sent down, was there not water inside? My report says that there is heavy seepage of water. Whether there was any recommendation for prior de-watering before working the mines? Coal mines have become death pits for the miners. On 8th January, 1976, I had put a question to the Labour Minister because the DGMS comes under his jurisdiction. After the Chasnalla disaster, within a few days another disaster has taken place in Sitapur Colliery. As I have already said, human lives in our country have no value Miners job is to produce more for the country but observance of safety rules is nobody's business. Neither Mr. K. C. Pant nor Shri Raghunatha Reddy are bothered about that.

The labour leaders sitting on the Congress benches will bear me out that a court of inquiry has recommended banning of contract labour but this is still going on. There is great deterioration in the safety measures during the last two years. I only quote two years accidents—1973 and 1975. These are from the Government reports. In 1973, 243 people were involved and in 1975, 277 people excluding Chasnalla disaster, were involved. If we include Chasnalla, it comes to 700 or 800 people. Why? Because there is no safety rule observed in the coal mines. What is the position now? Here I have got a paper cutting. The Director General, Mr. B. N. Bhatt, Eastern Region says that he has only 20 Safety Officers to look after the safety of 1,70,000 workers. A Welfare State talking of socialism and socialistic pattern of society, does not have money to employ more officers for safety of miners.

As I had said, Mr. Pant and the Government of India are interested only in raising coal, and the workers are raising it at the cost of their lives. I now quote from the note given by the Coal Mines Officers' Association to the Committee to review the Mines Safety law. It says:

> "After nationalization, the supply of protective equipments, capital stores etc., is not up to the desired standard."

One would say that these officers were against nationalization. I know that not all officers were against; but some were. But I quote Mr. Kanti Mehta, whose statement has come out. He has said that even before Independence, conditions inside the coal mines were horrible and there has not been desired improvement. He belongs to the Congress; he is an INTUC leader. There is no doubt that the safety measures are observed more in violation than in observance.

Now about the supervisory staff who are not so much of higher-ups or very big bosses. In a note to the above committee on 23-12-1975 from their association i.e. 4 days before this Chasnalla, disaster and 5 days after the Chinakuri disaster, they have said —and I quote:

> "All safety provisions have been ignored and mines are worked in violation of them."

Their own officers are saying this. I do not find Mr. K. C. Pant here.

[Dr. Ranen Sen].

Probably he thought that Mr. Chandrajit Yadav will be hammered here; but he is more responsible. Mr. Yadav is responsible for Chasnalla; but Mr. Pant is responsible for 700-odd collieries owned by the Government of India. More prosecutions by the DGMS are taking place for violation; in 1974 there were 11 cases of prosecution and in 1975, 25 cases. The DGMS has blamed the management for the accidents. He has held them responsible. They are under-staffed, as I had said earlier. Mr. Raghunatha Reddy is not here. He is in Rajya Sabha—I am told. The mines safety organization is directly under him. So many times in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, in the Labour Consultative Committee meetings—whose members are here—and in the meetings of the coal saiety organization, the trade unions have said that the mines safety organization had to be strengthened. It is under-staffed. It is said that money is not available. Mr. Subramaniam and his predecessors could not get money to appoint qualified officers as mines safety officers. This fellow DGMS laments that in the whole of the eastern region, for 170,000 workers, he has got only 20 officers. I cannot read the whole statement. He says that his officers can visit one mine after a lapse of six months. This is the position. That poor fellow may also be responsible for many acts of commission and omission. I don't hold brief for him. But this is what he has said. Nobody has contradicted it. He has said it in Calcutta and in Dhanbad. In October 1974 such a dangerous thing took place. It was an underground explosion in the Ranipur colliery. The DGMS put the blame squarely on the management then. After Jitpur accident, Mr. R. C. Dutt had made some recommendations. In this House, the Ministry of Energy, when asked a question, replied that those were under consideration. The Government go on considering recommendations of such commissions and committees. They do not take any step and people die. They die in hundreds every year. The Finance Ministry has no money and so the Labour Department cannot employ proper persons. The only business of the Energy Ministry seems to be to raise coal; not to see about the safety of the workers. Shri Pant should have been here during this discussion. But, unfortunately, he is not present here.

Three safety conferences have taken place between 1958 and 1973 and they have made recommendations like the appointment of proper inspectors, a number of inspections by the officers of the DGMS, etc. Any number of recommendations have been made. One of the recommendations was that the representatives of the trade unions, irrespective of political affiliations, should be associated with mines safety organisation. That has been the demand of the INTUC, AITUC and all the other trade union organisations, whether affiliated to the central organisation or not. Yet, Government is still thinking over that. I am told that in certain collieries in Bihar and Bengal, even though the workers have made this demand and the mines safety organisation has been vociferously demanding it, no worker has been associated with it. Should not the trade union workers be involved in it? But the bureaucracy does not like that.

The DGMS in a statement earlier had statd that rescue operators, etc., are not always available. Look at the Chasnalla The newspapers reported that the Government of India had to bring pumps for de-watering from Poona. Even though Dhanbad and Asansol are two big colliery areas producing the best coal in our country, proper pumps are not available in that area and had to be brought from Poona. I am told on enquiries that smaller pumps are available in that area. I say that the mines safety organisation of the Government of India should be equipped with at least the minimum requirements to meet such exigencies. Yet, the fact remains that we had to bring pumps from Poona and, ultimately, from USSR and Poland.

The safety conferences between 1958 and 1973 made certain recommendations. But none of them has been implemented so far. The third safety conference took place at Calcutta and the Chief Minister of West Bengal was asked to make a speech. In the course of his speech, he asked what was the use of making recommendations when those recommendations were not implemented. Our Chief Minister, Shri Ray, is not very famous for his very progressive or very socialistic outlook. Yet, when he found that none of the recommendations of the safety conferences has been either accepted or implemented, he was forced to ask: what was the use of holding these conferences.

Even though the R. C. Dutt commission made its recommendation in 1973, as far as I know, it is still under examination I say that four Ministries are responsible for this Chasnala disaster, namely, the Ministry of Steel and Mines, the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Finance. They are playing with the lives of the people. I must say that I have no personal grudge against Shri Yadav. As soon as the Chasnala disaster occurred, he went there, stayed for a couple of hours and since the atmosphere was not congenial, he went to Chandigarh where there was much cooler atmosphere. I say it is true. Let him deny whether for three days he was staying in Chandigarh or not? If it is not true, I will sue the newspaper which has made this report. The presence of the Minister was necessary when atleast 372 deaths were apprehended.

As I said, we are playing with the lives of the workmen. The Mines Amendment Bill was passed unanimously by the Joint Select Committee in the year 1973. Even the Government side agreed to that. There are Members here who were the Members of the Joint Select Committee in 1973. They made certain recommendations in regard to safety measures. This Joint Select Committee consisted of Members of both Houses of Parliament. That Amendment Bill has never seen the light of the day.

Who sabotaged it. D.G.M.S. made a statement on the 24th February, 1975, that means after waiting nearly for 1½ years, that the Bill was facing some trouble from vested interests. Who were the vested interests? This was a newspaper report. Nobody contradicted it; nobody hauled him up for making such a statement, such a damaging statement. I say it is good that the *ex-gratia* payment is being made to the families of the affected persons. The mine is being dewatered. We are hoping against hope that some lives will be saved. But no amount of money can bring back the death to life. The Chasnalla disaster is a sad chapter in the history of free India.

I say let there be a thorough enquiry into the Chasnala affairs I quote a statement from the President of Burdwan District Congress Committee. Mr. Pramanik, President, Burdwan District, Congress Committee, Asansol is under Burdwan District. Therefore, that gentleman was very much worried. Five or six days before, a disaster took place and that took place in Asansol area. He says in Calcutta on 7th January, 1976:

> "Collieries were no more safe than Chasnala, where nearly 300 mines were trapped below pit in floods and subsidence."

Mr. Pramanik said the mines at Chinakuri where the disaster took place on the 18th of December and the adjacent coal belt, as well as mines in the Kulti region, were all not quite safe.

It means a very big portion of Asansol area was not quite safe. This gentleman is worried. According to other sources, a fire had been raging for 15 years. That is nothing new. He further says:

[Dr. RANEN SEN].

"The entire situation in the coal belt should be examined thoroughly and steps initiated early to prevent a re-occurrence of the kind of calamity that took much a heavy toll of life at Chas Nala."

As far as the nationalised mines are oncerned, the whole position has to e gone through, and in co-operation ·ith the trade unions, this enquiry has) be made in regard to all the collie- es and see whether the safety mea- ures are followed or not, who are esponsible for not implementing iem?

When the Chas Nala Enquiry Com- ittee was set up, the All India Trade nion Congress wrote a letter to the inister that the workers' representa- ·es should be there as assessors

I have no grudge against the INTUC. lo not know whether they have also ade that demand. But we had made at demand. The Steel and Labour inistries did not find it necessary to sociate the AITUC in this thing. ·wever, that is not a very big thing. t the truth come out. But I say it a thorough inquiry has to be de into all the coal mines that exist India if we want to avert further aster.

n the end, I offer my sympathy to suffering people and their families o are suffering so much because we ld do very little for them.

श्री राम नारायण शर्मा (धनबाद) : यक्ष महोदय, चासनाला की दुर्घटना देश लिए और खदान के लिए खास कर के ही चिन्ताजनक दुर्घटना है। इस दुर्घटना सूचना खदान मंत्री श्री चन्द्रजीत यादव ुझे 27 तारीख की शाम को मिली और न के साथ ही चासनाला तक 28 को ूर में पहुंचा। वहां की जो दर्दनाक स्थिति उस का वर्णन करना कठिन है। वहां कोयला खदान के लोग इकट्ठा हो गए क्योंकि 28 तारीख काम करने का दिन नहीं था और इसलिए सभी लोग अपने संबंधियों को, अपने दोस्तों को, अपने परिचितों के बारे में जानने के लिए कि किस का क्या हाल हुआ पहुंचे हुए थे। सब से पहले इस की सूचना वहां भारत कोकिंग कोल लिमिटेड के पदाधिकारियों को मालूम हुई और वे वहां पहुंचे, पहुंच कर के सुरक्षा के लिए जो सब से पहला काम किया जा सकता था पम्पिंग का, उसका इंतजाम शुरू हुआ। यद्यपि पम्पिंग का इंतजाम काफी तेजी के साथ लोग करते रहे और केवल भारत कोकिंग कोल वाले ही नहीं, कोल इंडिया के चाहे वह ईस्टर्न कोल फील्ड हो, सेंट्रल कोल फील्ड हो या वेस्टर्न कोल फील्ड हो, सब लोगों ने इस को अपना विषय बना लिया और पूरी चेष्टा हुई। लेकिन अब तक कोई निकला नहीं। अभी भी पानी की जो रिपोर्ट आप को मिली, जैसा कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने बतलाया, अभी भी इतना पानी है कि फर्स्ट होराइजन तक पहुंचने में काफी देर है जहां कि काम हो रहा था और जो कि कारण बतलाया जाता है कि वहीं से यह रूफ बर्स्ट करने से पानी सारा नीचे चला गया और सब के सब आदमी अंदर रह गए।

लोगों की संख्या के संबंध में तरह तरह की बातें कही जाती हैं। आज तक मंत्री जी की यह रिपोर्ट है कि 372 आदमी थे। लेकिन अभी आधिकारिक तौर पर यह सूचना मिली है, मैं परसों वहां गया था, आधिकारिक तौर पर यह पता चला है कि 372 जिन के नाम बतलाए जाते थे उन के अलावा भी चार आदमी हैं लेकिन उन 372 में से एक आदमी नहीं है यानी 375 की संख्या बतलाई जाती है। उस में ठेकेदार के लोग भी 11 थे। उन को चाहे ठेकेदार का कहिए या कैजुअल लेबर कहिए और लगभग 42 आदमी जो ड्यूटी पर गए हुए थे वे बाहर आ चुके थे इस दुर्घटना के पहले। दुर्घटना के चन्द मिनट पहले मैनेजर और सेफ्टी आफिसर निकले थे। फिर भी इस

दुर्घटना में दो फर्स्ट क्लास मैनेजर, एक सेकेन्ड क्लास मैनेजर और 17 सुपरवाइजरी स्टाफ के लोग थे जोकि इसमें घिरे हुए हैं। मैं घिरे हुए इसलिए कहता हूं क्योंकि उनके परिवार वालों को अभी भी आशा है कि वे जीवित निकल सकते हैं।

वहां पर राहत के काम काफी हुए हैं। जैसा कि सदन में बयान दिया गया और अभी फिर मन्त्री जी बतलायेंगे, इस दुर्घटना ने देश भर के सारे लोगों को छू लिया है। हमारे कांग्रेस के मंच से चण्डीगढ में इसकी चर्चा हुई। राष्ट्रपति जी ने अपने रेफ्रेन्स में इसको दिया है। प्रधान मन्त्री जी के सामने इसको लाया गया तो वे तुरन्त बहस के लिए राजी हो गईं। आज इस चेतना के छूने के बाद, जैसा कि आज कहा जाता है कि सारे मुल्क की ही नहीं सारे संसार की चेतना छू गई है, उनका बलिदान कामियाब हो सकता है यदि जिन कारणों की वजह से वे आज शिकार हुए हैं उन कारणों को ढूढ लिया जाये। अभी तक यह दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि इस तरह की जो दुघटनायें होती है वह अपने साथ साथ सारी गवाहिया भी ले जाती हैं। अभी इस बात की कोई गवाही नही है कि इस दुर्घटना के क्या कारण थे। सन 1948 मे यह खान छोड दी गई थी जिस में आज तक पानी भरा हुआ था और 1945 का उसका तैयार नकशा था। उसी तैयार नकशे को आधार मानकर उसके ठीक नीचे उसके फर्स्ट होराइजन मे काम हो रहा था। सेकेन्ड होराइजन मे भी काम हो रहा था लेकिन फर्स्ट होराइजन की तह उससे सिर्फ 80 फीट बतलाई जाती है। 80 फीट का स्टैंडर्ड भी ठीक नही है। सेन्ट्रल माइनिंग रिसर्च स्टेशन ने आज उसको 60 मीटर किया है। इसके बाद बगल की ही खदान मे जब पर्मीशन की बात आई तो वहा पर पर्मीशन दी गई कि अब 80 फीट में नही, 160 फीट नीचे मे जाओ और वहां पर भी काम होता था। 5 जनवरी से वहा पर भी काम बन्द हो गया। अब यह सवाल है कि इस दुर्घटना का कारण या तो वह 80 फीट की जो थिकनेस बतलाई जाती है ऊपर की वह कम थी क्योंकि सन् 45 के नक्शे के आधार पर यह था। या उसको भी काटा गया हो या फिर सालिड ब्लास्टिंग आज कल चलती है। पहले चारों तरफ कटैया करते थे, मशीन से काटते थे और काटकर के उस के बाद उस मे होल करते थे और होल कर के ब्लास्ट करते थे। आज वह कटैया का काम भी बन्द हो गया है। बहुत जगहों से रिपोर्ट आती हैं कि जहा मशीन चलती भी थी साइडकटिंग के लिए वहां सालिड ब्लास्टिंग को प्रेफरेंस देते हैं। ज्यादा से ज्यादा पावरफुल यन्त्र का इस्तेमाल कर के अधिक से अधिक कोयला निकालने की कोशिश करते हैं। इस से इतने जोर का वाइब्रेशन होता है कि वह सारी तह को करा देता है और उस से भी वह गिर सकती है।

जहा 470 फुट पानी का एकुमुलेशन हो और उस का आधार 80 फुट हो, तो यह भी स्वाभाविक है कि उस के दबाव के कारण से भी सबसिडेन्स हुआ हो। यह भी बताया जाता है कि 1968 में एक बार इस पानी को निकालने की कोशिश की गई, लेकिन पानी के थोडा निकालने के बाद जब उस में गर्मी होना शुरु हुआ, हीटिंग होने लगी तो गर्मी की वजह से पानी निकालना बन्द करना पडा और बाद में यह पानी फिर भर गया। उस के बाद वहा पर तीन कुए बना कर उस पानी को वहा के मजदूरों को दिया गया।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, वास्तव में इस तरह की खदानों के काम को बन्द कर देना चाहिये था, क्योंकि नियम के अनुसार इस तरह के पानी को निकाल देना चाहिये था और उस के बाद वहा बालू भर देनी चाहिये थी, लेकिन चाहे पहले के कोई मालिक हो इस तरह बालू भरते नहीं थे

[श्री रामनारायण शर्मा]

और आज भी वह चेतना जागी नही है, आज के लोग भी उस को नही भरते है जिस की वहज से जो बीच का वैक्यूम होता है वह कभी न कभी धस जाता हैं, इन सब कारणों से पिलर भी बर्स्ट कर सकते हैं—इस तरह की दुर्धटनाए हो जाती हैं। इस लिये यह जरूरी हो जाता है कि इस तरह की दुर्धटनाओ से हम शिक्षा ले और इस तरह की व्यवस्था करे जिस से खदान में सुरक्षा हो और हम उस से वच सके।

अभी जैसा कि माननीय मत्री जी ने ने बतलाया 10 लाख गैलन पानी उस मे प्रतिदिन सीपेज होता था, लेकिन मेरा अनुमान यह है कि आज वह सीपेज कम हो गया होगा, क्योंकि जहा से सीपेज होता था, उस का आधार वन्द हो गया है।

मैं आप का ध्यान 1958 मे 1973 के बीच मे हुई तीन सेफ्टी कान्फैन्नेज की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हू इन तीन कान्फ्रेन्सो में जो भी सिफारिशें की गई वे आज तक पूरी तरह से इम्पलीमेंट नही हुई, यद्यपि वे तमाम सिफारिशे सर्व सम्मत थी और उस में सरकार भी पार्टी थी मजदूर भी पार्टी थे और उस समय जो प्राइवेट कम्पनिया थी, वे भी पार्टी थी। हमारे एक्सपर्टस की यह ओपीनियन है कि जितनी दुर्धटनायें होती है, उन में से 60 प्रतिशत छत के गिरने से होती है साईट के गिरने से होती है और यदि उन की समुची व्यवस्था की जाय तो उस तरह की दुर्धटनाओं को काफी हद तक रोका जा सकता है। एक एक्सपर्ट कमेटी ने बैठ कर इन दुर्धटनाओं की जाच की थी और यह बताया था कि प्रतिवर्ष दुर्धटनाओं के कारण 20 लाख मैन पावर लोस्ट होते हैं, जिनमें से उन की ओपीनियम के अनुसार 75 प्रतिशत को टाला जा सकता है मतलब यह है कि—यह ठीक है कि खदानों के काम मे दुर्धटनाये होना लाजमी हैं लेकिन 75 प्रतिशत को टाला जा सकता है।

1966 में एक व्यवसायिक प्रशिक्षण नियम बना था। उस के अनुसार उन को प्रशिक्षण देने के लिये दो स्थान खोले गये थे, प्रशिक्षण के दो स्थान होने के बावजूद भी अब तक केवल 30 प्रतिशत लोगों को ही ट्रेनिंग दी गई। आग से बचने के लिये वहां पर कम से कम 78 डिग्री से 72 डिग्री के बीच में या उस के ऊपर तापमान रहना चाहिये। लेकिन जब वेन्टीलेसन्ज का इन्तजाम नही होता है तो वहा का टेम्प्रेचर भी बढ़ता है, वहुत जगह गैस हो जाती है, बहुत जगहों पर आग लग जाती है और बहुत जगहों पर ब्लास्ट करते हुए विस्फोट हो जाता है और उस विस्फोट से इस तरह की दुर्धटनायें हो जाती है। जो साधारण सेफटी इक्विपमेट्स मजदूरों को मिलने चाहिए जैसे बैल्ट, टोपी, जूते, पीने के पानी का इतजाम, छत और साइट वगैरह देखने के लिये यत्र, यह सारे नही हो पाते है, उन का पूरा इस्पेक्शन नही हो पाता है। इसलिये दुर्धटनाये हो जाती है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस दुर्धटना में नेपाल के 24 आदमी, तमिलनाडु के 12, पजाब, के 17, वेस्ट बगाल के 27, उत्तर प्रदेश के 21, मध्य प्रदेश के 6 उडीसा के 6, महाराष्ट्र का 1, और राजस्थान का 1, यानी 115 आदमी और 260 आदमी बिहार के थे। इस प्रकार कुल मिला कर 375 आदमी इस दुर्धटना में मरे है।

सैफटी मैजर्स की तरफ में सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हु कि माइन्स एक्ट 1972 में इट्रोड्यूस हुआ, जोइट सैलेक्ट कमेटी की रिपोर्ट 1973 से पडी हुई है, उस को अभी पास कर लेना चाहिये। वर्कमैन कम्पेन्सैशन ऐक्ट के सम्बन्ध में आप ने ध्यान दिया, आज सवेरे ही माननीय मालवीय जी ने घोषणा की कि एक आदमी जो कि सीनियर ड्रिलर था उस को 1 लाख रूपया दिया जाएगा। यह वर्कमैन कम्पेन्सैशन ऐक्ट 1936 का है जिस के अनुसार जो 500 रू० पायेगा उस को 10,00,0 रू०

कम्पेन्सेशन का मिलेगा। अगर कानून का पालन किया भी गया तो कोयला खदान के मजदूर को यह कम्पेन्सेशन पाने का हक हासिल नहीं होगा। इसलिये 1936 में जो रु० की वैल्यू थी 10,000 रु० की उस में परिवर्तन होना चाहिये और सरकार को कोयला मजदूर के लिए समुचित मुआवजे की रकम निर्धारित करनी चाहिये। आज अगर कोई रेल दुर्घटना में मरता है तो उस को 50,000 कम्पेन्सेशन मिलता है, और हवाई जहाज में मरने वाले के सबधियों को एक लाख रु० देते हैं, और एक लाख रु० के कम्पेन्सेशन का आज सवेरे ही मालवीय जी ने अनाउन्समेंट किया है। सरकार को चाहिये कि उसी हिसाब से कोयला खान के मजदूरों के मुआवजे की रकम में सुधार किया जाय। और साथ ही मेरा निवेदन है कि रु० की सीमा न रखें कि 500 रु० वाले को ही मुआवजा मिलेगा, उससे ज्यादा पाने वाले को नहीं। क्योंकि खदान के अन्दर खान का मैनेजर भी जाता है और वह मर जाये तो उसको कम्पेन्सेशन का कोई हक नही है, यह धारणा बदलनी चाहिये। मेरा तो निवेदन है कि ग्रुप इंश्योरेंस की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये जिस में सब लोगों का इंश्योरेंस हो। और दुर्घटना होने पर उन के आश्रितों को नौकरी मिलने में प्रीफरेंस मिलना चाहिये, तथा जो दुर्घटना से असमर्थ हो जाये उन को पुनर्वास की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये तथा ग्रेचुटी ऐक्ट को इस तरह से अमेंड करना चाहिये कि दुर्घटनाग्रस्त लोगों को पूरी ग्रेचुटी पाने का हक हो सके।

पेंशन का इंतजाम कोयला माइन वैलफेयर आर्गेनाइजेशन ने किया है। लेकिन वह नाम मात्र का है। प्रति विधवा 25 रु० पेंशन में सुधार करना चाहिये। इसी प्रकार मुझे यह भी कहना है कि लेबर पार्टमेंट का जो सेफ्टी आर्गेनाइजेशन है उस की कोई महता नहीं रह गई है। उस को सरकार नान-टेक्नीकल मानती है। और टेक्नीकल का काम सुपरवाइज करने का है। इन को हाईली टेक्नीकल होना चाहिये जिस से काम सुपरवाइज कर सकें। और वह टेक्नीकल है भी, लेकिन तीसरे वेतन आयोग की सिफारिश के अनुसार उन को नान-टेक्नीकल माना गया। इसलिये सरकार को चाहिये कि उन को उचित स्थान दिया जाय, उन को मजबूत किया जाय जिससे वह सुपरवाइज कर सकें और उन के सुपरवीजन की कोई कीमत हो। आज कोयला खदान के मजदूरों में यह धारणा हो गई है कि श्रम विभाग का वही स्थान हो गया है जो स्थान एक विधवा बहन का अपने भाई के घर में होता है। तो ऐसी हालत में इनको मजबूत करना चाहिये।

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): While the debate is taking place here, the unfortunate miners are still under the mines trapped and their families are still uncertain about the fate of their men. But, generally, it is to be accepted that nobody will survive.

Now, it is admitted by all that this is the worst tragedy, the worst disaster in the collieries of India. This tragedy has taken place under conditions of emergency. The government is declaring that a New Era has started, an era of discipline, an era of production, an era of advancement has begun, but the worst tragedy took place in this era. Why? Why did under this new era this worst tragedy take place? According to my assessment of the situation, it is because of the bureaucratic implementation of these two slogans, 'More production' and 'Discipline' I visited Chasnala on the 30th. I met my friend, Shri R. N. Sharma there and I am thankful that he helped me and with his assistance, I got some overall idea of the situation there. The reports I got I want to place here.

The workers of the night shift on the 26th struck work in protest against the order of blasting coal there. This

[Shri Samar Mukherjee]

piece of information has never seen the light of the day I was told by the friend who is the President of the local INTUC who helped me in seeing these spots that written protest was submitted to the local management against the order of cutting coal near that wall but for fear of discipline—as it is emergency now—and for fear that they will be charge-sheeted and will be suspended, they could not defy the order. So, they had to succumb to discipline and it is the conviction of the workers there with whom I had talks that it was this overworking of the mine neglecting warning that had caused this tragedy. Maybe so. After investigation what will come into the report or the document, I do not know, but I was told this by that friend—Mr. Nisar Ahmed, INTUC President of the local unit who accompanied me at the request of Mr. Sharmaji. He told me that there is record in writing that the workers protested because they have some horse-sense about safety, they know and they have experience and that is why they have objected

SHRI R. N. SHARMA: That will be used in the Court of Inquiry.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: May be, But I am placing this before the Minister and before the House.

I have also been told that one Overseer gave in writing a warning that this wall may collapse any day.

SHRI R. N SHARMA: There is no Overseer in the coal-mines.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Whatever it is, I am placing before you what I heard there.....

SHRI DASARATHA DEB (Tripura East): Maybe some other functionary, if not an overseer.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: These things are getting currency there. It is not that I am telling these things in order to discredit the Government. I am only placing before you what I heard there.

This is a very grim tragedy. With all seriousness we should discuss all the doubts which are dominating the minds of the workers there. Now it is admitted that the norms of safety had been callously ignored.

16.00 hrs.

The main effort was to step up production, let any consequences be there—whether wall collapses or whether people are entrapped. Mr. Sen, an officer over there told me that the usual daily production was 450 to 500 tonnes. From 1st January, the target had been fixed to 600 to 700 tonnes.

The officers responsible for all this were very much interested in increasing the production.

More production and discipline were the two main slogans under emergency. Safety norms were completely ignored and the norms had been completely violated.

So many other reports have also come in the newspaper. Some have been referred by Dr. Ranen Sen and some have been referred by my friend Mr. Sharma. The map was an old one. It was shown there in the map that the wall was 80 ft. According to the Mines Act, the safety barrier should be at least 60 meters i.e., 160 ft. Mr Swaminathan, Reporter, Times of India has stated, though in the map it has been shown as 80' but actually it is not 80', it may be 60' or even less than that.

I was told that these workers struck work in the mid night shift of 26th. They refused to cut coal at that point. It is also heard that there was some blast I do not know whether there was actually any blast or not, but everybody admitted that there was such a big sound, it apeared that there was a big blast.

As per the Times of India, the quantity of water gust shows that the breach in the wall was more than 8'. Water was just on the top of the first

tunnel in the abandoned mine. The depth of the tunnel is 535'. The depth of the second tunnel is 935'. The third tunnel of depth of 1335' is not working now as there is water over there.

I was told that immediately after that disaster the attendance register was removed and the workers are very much suspicious that there will be tampering That is why the workers got enraged and they assembled before the Office of the Manager, Mr. O'..n. I was told that that Manager through some of his assistants removed that attendance register.

Workers' tempers rose so high that they threw stones. Some of the glass panes were broken. Police authorities came They announced in the mike that unless that Attendance Book is restored back, everyone responsible for removal of the Book will be arrested. In the afternoon that book was restored back. In that book it is recorded that 412 people went underground; 40 came out. But this 40 was challenged In my presence, the Assistant who helped me, told another officer He told this in my presence. He told him that there are 4 names which is not in the list They are missing; they are still there. The officer was asking me to see the distribution system. He immediately told "you give me the name, I will check up, whether it is correct, whether they were there or not." So, what I say is, the number figured in the register or the record of attendance is not absolutely correct. Because, I have seen this on the spot. From 372 it has now come to 375 But, as I said, the workers do not believe that only 375 have gone underground. There are some contractors' men and the practice is this that some of the contractors' men go underground without signing any register. There is one name of a contractor, Ajit Singh but the names of his men are not there. So, it is evident that more men are trapped in this tragedy. Sir, the local management, is trying to under-estimate the number of these casualties. We know their performance for the past so many years and you cannot wash away these doubts which arise in people's minds

Sir, there is also another threat. I am glad that the Sudamdih colliery has stopped working from 5th January. I have got information from some source which I immediately informed the Minister that any day this colliery may face the same disaster. There is also a big storage of water above it. The seepage is very dangerous and there is no proper protection. It is good that this colliery has stopped working. There is another colliery, Jitpur colliery. It is faced with similar danger, similar threat.

Sir, this Chasnalla disaster has highlighted some of the basic weaknesses and the operation of the dark forces there We will know how the dark forces are operating. This is from the Times of India of January, 3rd.

> 'Miners who evade the gangsters at pay offices, are pursued in their homes. There is no way to escape or redress It is useless to turn to the police who allegedly get a cut from the big money lenders to look the other way. Some policemen are also alleged to be engaged in money lending business. No succour can be obtained from security guards at the mines who themselves are the roughest and cruellest of the money-lender gangsters. Many of them in the old ways were musclemen hired by private mine-owners to subdue labour After nationalisation they have been given a permanent tenure as security guards.'

So, Sir, this is the sort of condition under which miners have to live there. This tragedy has highlighted so many things. The machinery of

[Shri Samar Mukherjee]

the Director General for Safety of Mines has not been strengthened. All the recommendations of so many Inquiry Committees after the disasters have been sabotaged and this is not something which is an isolated case. The mineowners are very powerful and they can sabotage any recommendation, because they are living in a capitalist system; the Government defends that capitalist system, though talking of Socialism.

That is why I say all these vested interests have very strong hold on the machinery of the Government. Although we may shout here, I have no confidence that there will be any big remedies found after this disaster. I may say that we are going to see far more disasters in future.

MR. SPEAKER: You must conclude with this.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: I am concluding. I agree with what my friend Shri Sharma has said with regard to relief. Government should give its serious thought to change the Act and provide for more relief so that the people, throughout their lives, have been rehabilitated. Those who are the victims of this tragedy are now getting the attention but those who are losing their jobs now because of the closure of the mines should not also be neglected and confidence has to be created among all the employees and throughout the country. And Government must act very very seriously to observe all the safety rules and bring before the House the Bill already amended and recommended by the Joint Committee without delay. I pay my homage to all those victims who are still in the trapped mine and my sympathies go to the families who have become the worst sufferers.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Damodar Pandey. Before you start, I would request the hon. Member to kindly confine his remarks only to ten minutes because, if he exceeds that, I am sorry I shall have to exclude many more Members. So, in order to include as many Members as possible, kindly confine your remarks to these ten minutes.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad): Will it apply to the Members of the Opposition also?

MR. SPEAKER: The Opposition have their time. In the case of Shri Samar Mukherjee, I have given him more time than what was due to his party

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: There are two speakers from the Opposition side.

MR. SPEAKER: That is right. Now, Mr. Damodar Pandey.

दामोदर पाण्डे (हजारीबाग) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो दुखद दुर्घटना हुई है, उस की जांच कराई जा रही है और इस जांच के काम में मेरे कंधे पर भी कुछ जिम्मेदारी डाली गई है। इसलिये इस अवसर पर मेरा कुछ कहना उचित नहीं है। मैं इस बारे में कुछ नहीं कहूंगा कि यह दुर्घटना क्यों घटी, इस में किस की जिम्मेदारी है, आदि। लेकिन मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि आज का बहस का जो विषय है, वह बड़ा सीमित है।

हमारे देश में छः लाख कोयला खदान मजदूर काम करते है। यह एक बड़ी दुर्घटना हुई है, लेकिन केवल एक साल, अर्थात 1975 में पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में जो दुर्घटनायें हुई है, उन में 275 या 300 आदमी मरे हैं और लगभग 1500 आदमी गम्भीर रूप से घायल हुए हैं। जैसा कि

मेरे पूर्व-वक्ताओं, डा० रानेन सेन और श्री शर्मा, ने बताया है, इस सम्बन्ध में देश में हर एक स्तर पर काफी वाद-विवाद हुआ है। सेफटी कांफरेंस हुई। मिनिस्ट्री के स्तर पर बातचीत हुई। मजदूरों ने इस बारे में काफी आवाज उठाई, लेकिन आज तक इस समस्या का कोई हल नहीं निकल पाया है।

मेरा सुझाव है कि आज जो विषय हमारे सामने है, उस को तो यहीं समाप्त करें, लेकिन छः लाख कोयला खदान मजदूर जो अनजाने खतरे से अपने जीवन को लड़ाते है, दे आर फाइटिंग एगेन्स्ट अननोन एनिमीज, उन को जो एक तरह भगवान के भरोसे छोड़ दिया जाता है, और इस प्रकार की दुर्घटनाये होती रहती है, उस में देश के प्रतिनिधियों का भी कुछ कर्तव्य है, और इस लिए पूरी सुरक्षा की व्यवस्था के लिए समय निर्धारित किया जाये और उस पर इस सदन में बहस हो। जैसा कि मेरे पूर्व-वक्ताओं ने सुझाव दिया है, वकमैन कम्पेन्सेशन एक्ट और ग्रुप इनशोरेंश की योजना को तुरन्त लागू किया जाय, ताकि मजदूर जब काम पर जाये, तो उस के दिल में यह विश्वास हो कि मुझ पर जो कुछ भी बीते, मेरा परिवार अनाथ नहीं रहेगा, उस को देखने वाला कोई है। यह गारंटी हम खदान मजदूरों को दें। मैं इसी सुझाव के साथ समाप्त करता हूं कि इस विषय पर पूरी बहस हो और उस के लिए समय निर्धारित किया जाये।

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad), Mr Speaker, Sir, as has been stated by the previous speakers, it is clear that this disaster in the mining industry has displayed how illequipped we are to meet such a situation. The Minister has stated that one million gallons of water is seeping everyday in the mine. Therefore, there must have been some arrangement for dewatering.

Besides that in 1956 a similar disaster took place when the roof of the Barodome mine collapsed due to heavy rainfall on the surface entrapping thirty-nine persons. Dewatering had been done and after 19 days 11 persons were found to be alive as they found shelter in an air pocket. With that hope dewatering has been done here also but it has taken a long time and we had to ask for help from Soviet Union, Poland and other countries No doubt, they readily agreed to send high-powered pumps for which we are grateful to them. But, Sir, is it not a sad commentary on us that despite such accidents in the past we have not made adequate provision for high-powered pumps in the event of such a calamity.

Secondly, it has been admitted that the authorities had left or were leaving nearly 80 feet layer when the Central Mining Research Station on a reference by them in an earlier cases advised them to leave the safe distance of 160 feet between the two workings. The content that this was a 'developmental colliery' not intended for extraction of coal is not intelligible to me and to many other persons in the country Even in this case there would be blasing and evtraction of coal. Therefore, I would like to say that the mining authorities have shown criminal negligence on their part in not consulting the Central Mining Research Station or for that matter the Director General of Mines Safety for advising them about the safe distance between the two workings.

Then again Mr. Sharma has pointed that they did not prepare new maps. They were working on the old maps and did not know the level of water in that *khud*. They did not know whether there were any gasses in the pocket of the mine because there was

[Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha]

a loud report, an explosion resulting into subsidence and flooding of the mine. All this point out to one thing that we have not been observing the safety provisions with care and concern as is expected of the management of a public sector. It has been stated by Dr Ranen Sen that three safety conferences have made earlier certain recommendations which were not implemented and also the courts of enquiry have made certain recommendations which have not been implemented.

Last year, in a seminar, the Director General of Mines Safety said that 75 per cent of these accidents were due to non-observance of safety provisions. The Health Minister of Bihar, who is also a labour leader, stated the other day that the disappearance the previous year of the inspecting staff has led to decline in safety standards. Why is it so? Is it because the mining authorities have been asked to raise the production? Is it because they are more anxious to reach the target of 12 million tonnes production? Is it because, in this particular mine, production was lagging and while they were trying to make it up with increased efforts, they have ignored the safety provisions?

The Court of Enquiry is going into this question. But, I was a little amazed that the hon. Minister made a statement that the safety provisions were observed In my opinion, he had no business to say so and he should not have made that statement. It was rather hasty and in my opinion, it will tend to pre-empt the findings of the Court of Enquiry. In the face of this volume of evidence that the safety standards have gone down, he should not have made this statement. He will notice that the inspections are not carried out regularly. I wonder whether these mining authorities had consulted the Director General of Mines Safety. Was it not incumbent upon this organisation to carry out inspections? Why did they allow mining operations to go on with the layer of 80 ft., as is claimed, although it is doubtful whether it was 80 ft. or less?

My friend Dr. Ranen Sen has given the answer that this Directorate General of Mines Safety is under-staffed, that the pay scales are not attractive and that most of the posts are un-filled. Some of them have already left the organisation or are leaving for more lucrative appointments elsewhere. This situation should be rectified by Government. I entirely agree with Mr R. N. Sharma that Government ought to place this organisation on a firmer footing by giving them adequate pay scales and all that, treating them as technical personnel and requiring the staff to have particular qualifications so that the safety standards could be properly observed.

But, unfortunately, even after nationalisation, we have not become safety-conscious. There is no anxiety and feeling for the welfare and well-being of the workers, and if I may say so, it has been largely ignored. We find that accidents have increased after nationalisation. Dr. Ranen Sen has already given the figures This is largely because of the fact that inspections are not carried out regularly, rules are not observed and the safety organisations have also not been activised. If I were to believe the hon. Minister that the safety provisions are there and that the safety organisation is functioning, then, there is no need for Coal India limited to come out with a modern scheme of safety organisation, which was reported in the Statesman recently, after the Chasnalla disaster. The Energy Minister has also set-up a high-powered committee to look into the standards of safety in the mines, as if they were all sleeping so far and they wanted this grim tragedy to wake them up from their slumber or to rouse their conscience about the safety of the persons who are working in the various mines.

It is a sad commentary on the whole system of working in the mines. My submission would be that

whatever may be the findings of the court of inquiry, we cannot exonerate the management in the public sector from their responsibilty and duty to see that such disasters do not take place, that they are reduced to the minimum, if not altogether eliminated.

With these words, I join the other friends in conveying our sympathies to the bereaved families

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह (चतरा) अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने सदन के सामने जो बयान दिया था, उसमें ठीक ही कहा था कि देश में यह सब से भीषण खान दुर्घटना है एक बड़ी जबरदस्त राष्ट्रीय विपत्ति है। अध्यक्ष जी, मौत कई रूपों और रंगों में आती है। कभी शेर की तरह से दहाड़ते हुए, कभी बिल्ली के समान दबे पांव और कभी हिरण के समान कुलांचे भरते हुए। लेकिन चासनाला खान दुर्घटना पर यह जो मौन का रूप यहां देखने में आता है, इस की कोई व्याख्या नहीं की जा सकती। 27 दिसम्बर को प्रातः पहली पारी—7 बजे जब मजदूर अपने घरों से निकल कर काम पर जा रहे होंगे, उन की माताएं, बहिनें पत्नियां उन्हें चाय-नाश्ते के बाद विदा कर रही होंगी, उन्होंने स्वप्न में भी यह नहीं सोचा होगा कि उन के पति या उनके भाई या उन के बेटे अब खाने के समय लौट कर नहीं आयेंगे और चूल्हे पर जो हांडी चढ़ी हुई है वह चढ़ी की चढ़ी रह जायगी, किसी को उतारने की सुध नहीं रहेगी।

मैं परसों वहां था, चौथे रोज भी वहां था—जहां चासनाला खान दुर्घटना हुई है और, अध्यक्ष जी, एक ओर जहां वह यह सब से बड़ी दुखद घटना इतिहास की है, वहां दूसरी ओर यह भी कहना पड़ेगा कि सरकार की ओर से बचाव और राहत का जितना बड़ा काम हो रहा है, बड़े पैमाने पर हो रहा है, शायद आज तक इतने बड़े पैमाने पर कहीं नहीं हुआ। वहां जो लोग कामों में लगे हुए हैं, सब के हृदय दुख और दर्द से भरे हुए है, लेकिन काम युद्ध स्तर पर हो रहा है और 24 घंटे हो रहा है—चाहे हमारे विदेशी टैकनीकल-ऐक्सपर्ट हों, हमारे इंजीनियर्स और मजदूर हों, चाहे इस्को के कर्मचारी हों, चाहे कोल इण्डिया लि० के लोग हों या दूसरी संस्थाओं के लोग हों या बिहार सरकार के कर्मचारी हों—सब के सब निष्ठा और विश्वास के साथ लगे हुए हैं कि कैसे हम मौत के मुंह से इतने व्यक्तियों में से कम से कम एक व्यक्ति को तो दुनिया के सामने ला कर खड़ा कर सकें और यह विजय इंसान की बहुत बड़ी विजय होगी।

अध्यक्ष जी, मैं इस बात को इसलिये कह रहा हूं कि जो लोग उन खानों में काम करते हैं—उन की स्थिति बड़ी दुखपूर्ण है—जिन 375 लोगों का विवरण हमारे सामने आया है, उनमें 250 के लगभग ऐसे नौजवान हैं जिन की पत्नियों की आयु औसतन 15 से लेकर 28 वर्ष तक की है और चासनाला के बगल में जो सादरा गांव है, उस गांव में लगभग 58 ऐसी विधवायें हैं जिन की उम्र 15 वर्ष से लेकर 0 वर्ष के अन्दर की होगी। उनमें से कई की गोद में छोटे-छोटे दूधमुंहे बच्चे हैं। उनका विलाप इस लिये नहीं कि वे 1956 में जो बड़ाधेमा में इस तरह का हादसा हुआ था उस में 19 दिन के बाद भी 11 व्यक्ति जिन्दा बचा कर बाहर निकाले गये थे। इसके अलावा, चासनाला में कुछ वर्षों पहले 90 में ही मोरा में एक बहुत बड़ी खान दुर्घटना हुई थी, जिस में 250 से अधिक व्यक्तियों की मौत हुई थी। 268 के करीब आदमी मरे थे, और चासनाला के बगल में जीतपुर खान में जो कि आई०आई० एम०कां० की खान है, 18 मार्च, 1973 को दुर्घटना हुई थी जिस में 47 आदमी मरे थे। उस समय इस सदन में 21 मार्च, 1973 को कटिंग अटेंशन की चर्चा में बहुत सी बातें कही गई थीं, और उस का जवाब देते

[श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह]

हुए तत्कालीन खान मंत्री स्वर्गीय मोहन कुमार मंगलम ने विश्वास दिलाया था कि इस की समुचित जांच होगी और इस तरह के कदम उठाये जायेंगे जिस से इस तरह की दुर्घटना न हो। डा० रणेन सेन ने कहा कि जीतपुर खान दुर्घटना की जांच हुई। लेकिन जांच के बाद जो रिपोर्ट पेश हुई उस पर समुचित कार्यवाही नहीं की गई। और सब से दुख की बात यह है कि उस समय इस सदन में कहा गया था कि जो खानों में मजदूर काम करते हैं उन के कम्पलसरी इंश्योरेंस की व्यवस्था की जाय हमारे नौजवान साथी श्री पी० आर० दास० मुंशी ने यह सवाल उठाया था और उस के उत्तर में तत्कालीन मंत्री महोदय ने यह कहा था .

"The Member raised the question about proper protection so far as the workers are concerned, who have to work under such dangerous conditions and suggested that there should be a type of insurance scheme which will see that the compensation is much greater than what it is today. I am grateful to him for the suggestion and certainly we will examine it"

लेकिन यह आज तक ऐग्जामिन ही हो रहा है, आज तक कोई कार्यवाही नहीं हुई।

16.32 hrs.

[SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI *in the Chair.*]

सभापति जी, दुर्घटना स्थल पर अगर कोई जाय तो बहुत सारी बातें सुनने को मिलेंगी, मैं नहीं जानता वे कहां तक सत्य हैं, उस का जो जांच कमीशन जाने या सरकार जाने, लेकिन हमारे कानों में जो बातें पड़ी हैं उन को मैं कहना चाहूंगा।

यह कहा जाता है कि दो, चार दिनों से मजदूर यह कहते थे कि अधिक पानी चूता है और ऐसा लगता है कि जैसे कोई खतरा आ रहा हो, इस की जांच होनी चाहिये। लेकिन इस पर किसी ने गम्भीरता से ध्यान नहीं दिया। यह भी कहा जाता है कि मजदूरों ने यह शिकायत उस दिन आधा घंटे पहले तक की कि पानी कुछ अधिक चू रहा है, और वहां के मैनेजर श्री भट्टाचार्य नीचे गये भी और उन्होंने मजदूरों से कहा तुम लोग काम करो, कोई खतरा नहीं है। वे बाहर निकल कर आये और उस के 10 मिनट बाद ही खतरे ने मौत का रूप ग्रहण कर लिया। आखिरी व्यक्ति उस खान से बाहर आने वाले वहां के मैनेजर थे जिन को सम्भवत उसी समय हार्ट अटैक हुआ और अभी तक वह बर्नपुर अस्पताल में भर्ती है।

हमारे सामने कुछ सवाल ऐसे पैदा हो जाते हैं जिन का उत्तर सरकार का ढूंढना चाहिये। उन सवालों का जवाब हम को मिले या न मिले, लेकिन भविष्य को इन प्रश्नों का उत्तर मिल जाये जिन से लाखों की संख्या में जो खान मजदूर हैं जिन की जान को रोज खतरा रहता है, उन को भरोसा हो सके कि हम नीचे जाते हैं तो फिर लौटकर कर ऊपर आयेंगे, और उन के परिवारों को भरोसा हो सके कि हमारा आदमी लौटकर आयेगा।

सब से पहला प्रश्न यह उपस्थित होता है कि पुरानी खान और चालू खान के बीच में जो छत थी वह कैसे टूटी ? आदमी की गलती से टूटी या प्रकृति की गलती से टूटी ? इस की जांच होनी चाहिये। और यह भी जांच होनी चाहिये कि 80 फीट का सीम थी कि नहीं ? क्योंकि बारबार यह कहा जाता है कि प्रोडक्शन दिखाने के लोभ में लोगों ने इतनी रेजिंग कर दी थी कि वह मुश्किल से 30, 40 फीट होगी। मैं नहीं जानता कि कितनी होगी। लेकिन इस की जांच होनी चाहिए। पुरानी खानों का जो नक्शा उपलब्ध है, वह सही है या ग़लत है, इस की भी जांच हो। यह भी हम चाहेंगे।

दूसरी बात यह है कि इस खान मे या उस के बगल मैं जो जीतपुर खान है, उस मे अभी तक ठेकेदारी प्रथा चालू है। क्यो ठेकेदारी प्रथा चालू है, मै नही जनता। मजदूरो की ओर से बराबर यह शिकयत होती रही है कि ठेकेदारी प्रथा के अन्तर्गत जो मजदूर काम करते है, उन्हे कोई भी सुविधा नही मिलती है और उन की जान बराबर खतरे मे रहती है। जीतपुर खान मे बडी मात्रा मे ठेकेदार काम कर रहे है और चासनाला मे भी काम करते हैं लिखित रूप मे मजदूरो की तरफ से यह लिख कर दिया गया है कि हमारी हाजरी नही बनती है और हम लोग बिना हाजरी के खानो मे काम करते है और किसी तरह का एक्सीडेंट हो जाने पर दवा भी नही मिलती है। क्या माइन्स रगुलेशस के मुताबिक खानो मे बिना हाजरी जाना जरूरी है ? जीतपुर खान के मजदूरो ने 26-6-75 को यह लिख कर दिया है कि खुराक के रूप मे पमा मिलना है और कभी कभी हम को बिल्कुल पैसा नही मिलता है और जब हम पैसा मागत है तो मारा पीटा जाता है और जुल्म किया जाता है। राष्ट्रीयकरण के बाद और आजादी के बाद खनिको पर इस तरह का जुल्म हो, इस चीज को सरकार को देखना चाहिए।

सभापति जी, एक दो बातें हम और जानना चाहेंगे। पहली बात हम यह जानना चाहेंगे कि इस खान के जो जनरल मेनेजर श्री जे०एन० ओहरी हैं क्या यह बात सही है कि इस के पहले जीतपुर मे भी जो दुर्घटना हुई थी, उस समय भी श्री जे० एन० ओहरी वहा के मुख्य प्रबन्धक थे और क्या यह भी सही है कि उस के पहले चीनापुरी में जो भयकर दुर्घटना हुई थी, उस समय भी वे वहा के जनरल मैनेजर थे और क्या यह बात सही है कि जहा भी वे जनरल मैनेजर रहे है वहा इस तरह की दुर्घटनाए होती रही है और क्या यह भी सही है कि वे अपने जो जुल्म के लिए बडे बदनाम है ? सभापति जी मैं अपनी ओर से कुछ नही कह रहा हू। जो बात मुझ वहा सुनने को मिली है वही बाते मै बता रहा हू।

सभापति जी, बडे दुख की बात है कि इतनी बडी घटना हो गयी, देश के इतिहास मे और दुनिया की माडर्निग हिस्ट्री मे इतनी बडी दर्दनाक घटना हो गई लेकिन एक भी व्यक्ति को अभी तक वहा यह नही कहा गया है कि भई तुम्हारी इस मे गलती हो सकती है और सभापति जी, मझे तो ऐसा लगता है कि जस्टिस उज्जवल नारायण सिन्हा की सिदारत मे जो इक्वायरी कमेटी बैठाई गई है, उस जाच कमेटी की रिपोर्ट भी आ जाएगी लेकिन जो अधिकारी इस के लिए जवाबदेह पाए जाएगे वे किसी न किसी तरह छूट जाएँगे और मुझे तो ऐसा भय लगता है जैसा कि कई साहब कह रहे थे कि प्रोमोट भी हो जाएगे। तो अब जो हो गया हो गया लेकिन भविष्य म हमे इस बात का ध्यान रखना चाहिए कि ऐसी घटनाए न हो।

दूसरी बात यह है कि श्रमिको को, मजदूरों को, जोकि खानों मे काम करते है, उनको उचित सुरक्षा मिले और तीसरी बात यह है कि जिस की भी नेगलीजेस हो, जिस की भी लापरवाही हो और जिस की भी गलती हो, वह चाहे बडे से बडा अधिकारी और व्यक्ति क्यों न हो, उसे दडित किया जाए। इस की हम माग करते है।

सभापति जी, मेरी ओर देख कर आप मुस्करा रहे थे और मुझे ऐसा लग रहा था कि आप मुझे और बोलने देगे लेकिन आप ने जो घटी बजा दी है तो मैं नही चाहता कि आप की आज्ञा का पालन न करू और आपकी आज्ञा का पालन करते हुए मैं पाच मिनट और लूगा।

सभापति महोदय. नही, दो मिनट मे आप समाप्त कर दें।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह मै दो मिनट में ही समाप्त कर रहा हूं ।

सभापति जी, कुछ बातें मैंने बहुत गंभीरतापूर्वक यहां रखी है । जहां तक रिलीफ का सवाल पैदा होता है, सरकार की ओर से काफी रिलीफ़ दिया जा रहा है और दिया जाएगा और लोगों को नौकरी भी मिल जाएगी, लेकिन लोगों की जाने वापस लौट कर नही आ सकती । अभी माननीय सदस्य डा० रानेन सेन ने कहा कि इस्पात मंत्री, श्री चन्द्रजीत यादव गये और तुरन्त भाग कर चंडीगढ़ मे पहुंचे । यह बिल्कुल बेबुनियाद इलजाम इसलिए था कि मंत्री महोदय चड़ीगढ़ छोड़ कर जब उनको यह समाचार मिला वहा पहुचे और तुरन्त पहुंचे । हम लोग भी वहा बहुत ज्यादा चिन्तित थे और चंडीगड का माहौल इस चिन्ता से और इस दर्द मे भीग रहा था । हम सब इस प्रतीक्षा मे थे कि हमारे श्री चन्द्रजीत यादव लौट कर आएं और हमें बताएं कि वास्तविक स्थिति क्या है। जब हमें वास्तविक स्थिति का पता लगा तो प्रधान मंत्री श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी और कांग्रेस अध्यक्ष, श्री देवकान्त बरुआ ने सब से पहले चासनाला कांड की दर्दनाक घटना का जिक्र किया और उन लोगों के प्रति श्रद्धांजलि भी अर्पित की । यही नही श्री रघुनाथ रेड्डी, बिहार सरकार की श्रम मंत्री श्रीमती शांता कुमारी सिन्हा, वहा के स्वास्थ्य मंत्री श्री सिद्धनाथी दुबे जो इंटक के बहुत बड़े नेता है, इस सदन के माननीय सदस्य श्री राम नारायण जी शर्मा, श्री दामोदर पांडे आदि सब वहां गए और अभी भी इन सभों का एक एक पाव वहां है । इस परिस्थिति में मैं केवल इतना ही कहना चाहता हूं कि इसे राजनीति का प्रश्न नही बनाना चाहिए बल्कि मानवता का प्रश्न बनाना चाहिए और मानवता का प्रश्न समझ कर दुखी लोगों की हर तरह से मदद की जाए । साथ ही जिन लोगों को नैगलिजेंस पाई जाए उन्हें दंडित भी किया जाए जिससे इस तरह की दर्दनाक घटना की पुनरावृत्ति फिर कभी न हो सके ।

सभापति महोदय : मैं एक अर्ज माननीय सदस्यों से करना चाहता हूं । अभी पांच मैम्बर बोलने वाले है । मिनिस्टर साहब को साढ़े पांच बजे बुलाया जाएगा । इसलिए मेरी दरख्वास्त है कि माननीय सदस्य सात आठ मिनट से ज्याद न ले ।

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र (मधुबनी) : मेरी प्रार्थना है कि जितने लोगों का लिस्ट में नाम हैं उन्हे अवश्य बुलाया जाए फिर चाहे पांच मिनट या सात मिनट दिये जाये । पिछली बार की तरह नही होना चाहिए कि नाम तो थे लेकिन समय के अभाव के कारण लोगों को बुलाया नही जा सका ।

सभापति महोदय श्री सोखी ।

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI (Jamshedpur): Sir, this is the third biggest world mishap in the history of coal mining. I will not repeat the points made by the previous speakers.

I visited the Dhanbad coal mine area a month before this accident, i.e. between 27th and 29th November and I was surprised to see that water was being pumped into the abandoned mine. When I enquired from one of the coal washery officers, he said, "This is an experiment from the side of the Mine Safety Department." It has to be enquired into whether this experiment has resulted in this accident. When there was seepage of one million gallons per day, why was this water being pumped? When I asked, "Why din't you do send stowing here?" The officer was not able to explain. He only said. "The order is to fill water from the Damodar river." This is a serious thing. I think this accident could have been prevented if the authorities had been a little bit alert. Some experts think that as per the map of the abandoned mine, the disaster should never

have occurred. Why did not the Chasnalla mine authorities ask the Central Mining Research Station to test the seam and recommend safety margins, if the question of distance between the two mines comes in? The mine authorities could have easily taken the precaution of verifying the accuracy of the old map by drilling test holes. This was not done. This accident has taken place due to the negligence of the mining authorities and of the Directorate General of Mine Safety.

I want to know the duty of Director General, Mines Safety. Whether he is a ceremonial head or is he meant for looking after the mines? There are preventive measures which could be suggested to the mine owners. He and his subordinate officers who have their headquarter at Dhanbad should have taken these measures. Now, I am told that there is a tug of war going on between the Mines Authority and the Director-General of Mines Safety and each one is trying to blame the other party. I would request the Minister of Steel and Mines whosoever the officer may be, if he is found irresponsible and negligent, should be dismissed and I would say that some of them should have been suspended by now. In 1971, a roof collapsed in Rourkela Steel Plant. When the report came in, late Mr. Kumaramangalam dismissed right from Foreman to General Manager This time also, nobody should be spared and I think, only then, you can set an example.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र (मधुबनी) : सभापति जी, मुझे लगता है कि 1975 ईस्वी सन् बिहार का विनाश करने की कसम खाकर आया था। उसका पार्पण हुआ नहीं कि हमारे बिहार के परमप्रिय नेता और तत्कालीन रेलवे मंत्री हमसे निर्दयतापूर्वक छीन लिए गये।

अगस्त में विनाशकारी बाढ़ आई, और आज जिस विषय पर हम चर्चा कर रहे हैं, वह घटना भी 27 दिसम्बर को ही घटी। यह चसनाला की घटना है।

कोयला खान में यह पहली घटना ही नहीं है, जब तब घटनाएं होती ही रहती है। लेकिन इस बात की जो घटना हुई है वह सर्वोपरि है और उसके रिकार्ड बीट कर दिया है। इसमें 375 आदमी अभी तक पानी में घिरे हुए है। बचाव के काम हो रहे है। मुझे संतोष है कि हमारे नौजवान, कर्मठ, तत्पर और मुस्तैद रहने वाले इस्पात मंत्री श्री चन्द्रजी यादव ने इस मौके पर अपनी प्रेजेंस आफ माइन्ड और कर्मठता का परिचय दिया है।

जब चण्डीगढ़ में ए० आ० सी० सी० के जलसे में लोग सम्मिलित हो रहे थे, तो वहा पर इसकी सूचना पाकर ही श्री यादव सीधे वहा पहुंच गये और वहा वस्तुस्थिति की जानकारी ली और जो भी संभव हुआ वहा व्यवस्था कर के वह प्रधान मंत्री को अवगत कराने के लिए वापिस आ गये। इस तरह से उनका आना-जाना बराबर रहा। इसके साथ ही हमारे केन्द्रीय श्रम मंत्री भी पीछे नहीं रहे।

अक्सर हम ऐसा कहा करते थे कि बिहार सरकार सोई रहती है, लेकिन इस बार बिहार सरकार सोई नहीं थी, जगी थी। वहा के श्रम मंत्री, स्वास्थ्य मंत्री, सत्य मंत्री, मुख्य सचिव आदि लोगों ने भी वहा जाकर स्थिति की जानकारी ली और जो भी संभव हुआ दु खदर्द को दूर करने के लिए उन्होंने प्रयास किया।

इस चसनाला खदान का काम 1945 में ही बन्द हो गया था, फिर 1960 में कोकिंग कोल की आवश्यकता महसूस होने पर एक विदेशी फर्म के परामर्श पर उसकी तह में फिर खुदाई का काम प्रारम्भ हुआ। अनुमान यह है कि 80 फ़िट की उस दीवार के बरसों

[श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्रा]

काम करने से गिर जाने के कारण उसमे जहां-तहा छिद्र हो गये थे और उन्हीं से पानी प्रवेश हुआ ।

ऊर्जा विभाग के सैक्टरी श्री चारी का कहना है कि खदान का काम बहुत सकीर्ण रुप मे हो रहा था । अगर वह बहुत दूर तक होता रहता तो पानी का जमाव इतने विशाल रूप मे न होना । उनका अनुमान है कि अगर दूर तक खदान का काम होता तो पानी 2,3 फिट से ज्यादा नही जा सकता था और इस तरह इतनी जानो को कुर्बानी न होती मे समझता हू कि कोई टैक्निकल आदमी, या जो शक्तिशाली कमीशन नियुक्त हुआ है, वह ही बतायगा कि दुर्घटना कैसे हुई ?

50 बरस की दुर्घटनाओं मे ऐसी दुर्घटना आज तक कभी नहीं हुई । 1965 मे घोरी मे जो खान दुर्घटना हुई उसमे 300 लोगो की जाने गई । यह जो दुर्घटना हुई है, इससे देश ही नही सारा विश्व अवसन्न, खिन्न और दुखी है । राष्ट्रपति जी और प्रधान मत्री जी ने वहा घिरे हुए लोगो के परिवारों के प्रति सवेदना प्रकट की है । देश और विदेशो से यथासभव सहायता प्राप्त हुई है । इस समय सबसे जबर्दस्त समस्या यह है कि खान से पानी को कैसे निकाला जाये ? इसके लिए देश मे जहा से भी पम्प उपलब्ध हो सके, वहा से वे मंगाये गये ।

डा० रानेन सैन ने कहा है कि हमे नागपुर से पम्प लाने पडे । मै कहना चाहता हूं कि आवश्यकता पडने पर नागपुर क्या, देश के बाहर रूस, अमेरिका या पोलैड से भी इस प्रकार की सहायता प्राप्त की जा सकती है । यह कार्य हमने उन मजदूरों की रक्षा के लिये किया है, और किसी मतलब से नही । अगर नागपुर और बम्बई से पम्प मगाये गये, तो यह ठीक ही किया गया । जो हुआ है, वह बिल्कुल ठीक हुआ है और मंत्री महोदय इसके लिये धन्यवाद के पात्र हैं ।

रूस से केवल पम्प ही नही आये है, वहां से एक्सपर्ट भी आये है और बहुत सा अन्य सामान आया है । पोलैड से भी 5 पम्प आ चुके हैं, लेकिन जब पानी का स्तर 180 मीटर तक निकल जायगा, और जब हमारे देशी पम्प काम के लायक नही रह जायेगे, तब पोलैड के पम्प काम मे लाये जा सकेंगे । इस समय रूस से जो दो पम्प कार्यरत हैं, उनसे प्रति मिनट 11,900 गैलन पानी की निकासी हो रही है ।

मैं चन्द शब्दों मे वर्णन करूगा कि इस सकट की घडी में सरकार और अन्य सस्थानो द्वारा क्या कार्य किया गया है । वहा पर एक इन्फर्मेशन सैंटर की स्थापना हुई है जिसका काम है कि वह लोगो से जानकारी हासिल करे कि किस को क्या सहायता चाहिये । यह सूचना प्राप्त कर के उन लोगो को सहायता की जाती है । एक वैलफेयर सैंटर भी बना है जिसका काम है —

to serve as a Medical Centre, to serve as a Free Rationing Officer, to serve as a Survey Office.

वहां पर जो पदाधिकारी है, उनको धर्मपत्नियों के द्वारा विपत्तिग्रस्त परिवारों में फूड पैकेटस बांटें जाते है । अभी तक करीब 6,000 पैकेटस बाटे जा चुके है ।

बिहार सरकार ने रिलीफ की जो व्यवस्था की है वह इस प्रकार है —

Immediate relief at the rate of Rs. 500|- per family; an additional relief at the rate of Rs. 1,000|- per family, grant of homestead land of 0.5 acre per family in Bihar; assurance of employment to the extent possible in the State Government departments undertakings to all dependents above 18 years of age; and assurance of providing educational facilities.

IISCO management have decided to provide Rs. 2 lakhs in addition to the ex-gratia grant at the rate of Rs. 1,000|- per family.

केन्द्रीय स्तर पर चसनाला एमरजेंसी रिलीफ फंड की स्थापना हुई है, जिसके अध्यक्ष हमारे स्टील मिनिस्टर श्री चन्द्रजीत यादव है । उस के एक सदस्य है हमारे केन्द्रीय श्रम मंत्री और बिहार के श्रम मंत्री भी उस के एक सदस्य है । आइ एन टी यू सी के जो प्रेसीडेंट है भगवती जी वह भी उस के एक सदस्य है । इस कमेटी का काम है कोआर्डिनेट करना और जहा से जो धन उपलब्ध हो उस को जमा करना, उस का हिसाब रखना और विपदग्रस्त परिवारो मे उस को बाटना । इस के जरिए काम हो रहा है । इस मे सावधानी बरतनी है कि हम ने जो रिलीफ देने की व्यवस्था वहा की है वह उचित आदमी को मिले, बेईमान और घुसपैठिए उस को न ले ले, असल आदमी को ही वह मिले । इस पर निगरानी रखना है । सुनने मे आया है कि वहा पर महाजन, मनीलेंडर्स इर्दगिर्द मडरा रहे है और जो पैसा रिलीफ का दिया जाता है वह उन से मिल कर या जबर्दस्ती या जैसे भी उन से हडप लेते हैं । सरकार इस के ऊपर निगरानी रखे और उन परिवारो को और विपदग्रस्त होने से बचाए ।

दूसरी बात—ये सब काड जब होते है तो जवाबदेही टालने का काम होने लगता है । हम कहते है कि उस का दोष है, वह कहते है कि उस का दोष है । यहा का जो नक्शा बना हुआ है उस की आथेंसिटी की जाच सेंट्रल माइनिंग रिसर्च स्टेशन से करानी थी । इस बात को लेकर माइन स्टाफ का अधियोग डायरेक्टोरेट जनरल आफ माइन सेफटी पर है और डायरेक्टोरेट जनरल का माइन स्टाफ पर । इस को कौन देखेगा ? मझ आशा है कि जो हाई पावर कमीशन बैठा है कि वह इस की देखभाल करेगा और उचित व्यवस्था करेगा ।

कोयले की खान और कोयला कितना महत्वपूर्ण है यह बतलाने की आवश्यकता नही । ऊर्जा का प्रमुख साधन अभी भी कोयला है । यह दुर्घटना बताती है कि अन्य खानो में भी सुरक्षा की समुचित व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए । ऐसे साधनो की खोज और प्रयोग आवश्यक है जिस से कोयले के यांत्रिक खनन की प्रक्रिया और उन्नत हो ।

हम यह अच्छी तरह समझे कि खनकों का काम सिर्फ रोटी कमाना नही है । यह देश सेवा है । उन के प्राण की रक्षा की जिम्मेदारी प्रबन्धको पर है ।

खान मे पानी भरने, जमीन धसकने, उन के भीतर कायला या गैस मे आग लग जाने से या शुद्ध हवा के अभाव मे दुर्घटनाए हो सकती है । उन को रोकने के लिए स्थायी नियम बनाने चाहिए और उन का पूरी तरह पालन होना चाहिए ।

अन्त मे मैं यह निवेदन करूगा कि जिस तरह ट्रेन दुर्घटनाग्रस्त और वायुयान दुर्घटनाग्रस्त लोगो को मुआवजा दिया जाता है उस हिसाब से खान मे काम करने वालो का मुआवजा बहुत ही कम है जिन के बारे मे हमारे माननीय सदस्यों ने कितनी चर्चा की है कि उन का काम कितना देशभक्तिपूर्ण और जवाबदेही से पूर्ण है । वे अपनी जान खतरे मे दे कर काम करते है । लेकिन उन के लिए मुआवजा निर्धारित किया है दस हजार और वह भी शायद देते हैं या नही देते । इसलिए मैं आग्रह करूगा कि मुआवजा सबधी कानून मे परिवर्तन किया जाय और उन को उचित मुआवजा मिल सके इस की व्यवस्था हो । इस के साथ साथ खान मे

[श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र]

काम करने वाले प्रत्येक व्यक्ति के इन्श्योरेंस की व्यवस्था हो । इस से उन के परिवार वालों को भी संतोष होगा और खान का काम ठीक तरह से चलेगा ।

श्री परिपूर्णानंद पेन्यूली (टिहरी गढ़वाल) सभापति जी, मैं उन शोक संतप्त परिवारों के प्रति अपनी समवेदना व्यक्त करता हूं । जैसा कि आप जानते है हमारे राष्ट्रपति जी ने और प्रधान मंत्री जी ने भी इस पर कितना क्षोभ व्यक्त किया है । इस में कोई संदेह नहीं है कि चासनाला काड की दुर्घटना की जांच करने के लिए हमारे सुयोग्य मंत्री यादव जी की अध्यक्षता में एक उच्च स्तरीय कोआर्डिनेशन कमेटी का गठन किया गया है जो कि बहुत तत्परता से अपना काम कर रही है और यथा समय जो भी सहायता उन के परिवारों को दी जा सकती है वह भी दी जा रही है । बिहार सरकार भी इस में अपना योगदान कर रही है ।

यह अत्यन्त खेद का विषय है कि चासनाला काड सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की उस खान में हुआ है जो कि आधुनिकतम बतलाई जाती है । किन्तु इस से बड़ निकम्मेपन की मिसाल और क्या हो सकता है कि खान दुर्घटना होने के बाद हम को दूसरे देशों से पम्प मंगाने की व्यवस्था करनी पड़ी उस की व्यवस्था पहले नहीं की गई थी । यह तो हमारा सौभाग्य हुआ कि हमारे मित्र देश रूस और पोलैंड ने हम को समय पर सहायता दी वरना हम हाथ पर हाथ रखे बैठे रह जाते ।

मैं आपका ध्यान स्वर्गीय श्री मोहनकुमार मंगलम के उस भाषण की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं जोकि उन्होंने जीतपुर दुर्घटना के बाद 26 मार्च, 1973 को खदान प्रबंधकों और निरीक्षकों की बैठक आयोजित की थी और उसमें उन्होंने कहा था :

"उत्पादन कितना ही वांछित क्यों न हो, इसे असुरक्षित खनन प्रणालियों से प्राप्त नहीं किया जाना चाहिए, और मुझे विश्वास है आप लोग भी यह महसूस करते होंगे कि असुरक्षित खदान अन्त में उत्पादन की दृष्टि से भी निम्न कोटि की है ।

उन की इस सलाह के बावजूद भी मैं समझता हूं उस खान में जो काम करने वाले प्रबन्धक है उन्होंने समुचित रूप से ध्यान नहीं दिया । 375 व्यक्तियों की जो मृत्यु हुई उसके लिए मैं कहता हूं कि कुछ व्यक्तियों की लापरवाही के कारण यह सब हुआ है । उन को इस हत्या के लिए जिम्मेदार ठहराया जाना चाहिए । यदि यह सिद्ध हो जाय कि कुछ लोगों की गल्ती की वजह से यह लापरवाही की वजह से यह हुआ है तो उन पर उसकी रेस्पांसिबिलिटी फिक्स की जानी चाहिए । इस सम्बन्ध में जो संशोधित विधेयक विचाराधीन है और संसद में आने वाला है मैं समझता हूं उसमें इस बात की व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए कि लापरवाही के कारण इस प्रकार की जो दुर्घटनायें खदानों में होती है उनकी रेस्पांसिबिलिटी फिक्स की जानी चाहिए और कड़े से कड़े दण्ड की व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए ।

इस सन्दर्भ में मैं एक बात यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि खान दुर्घटनाओं की अब तक की जो रिपोर्टस आई है उनसे पता चलता है कि इस प्रकार की दुर्घनायें 50 प्रतिशत तक पहली शिफ्ट में होती है । मैं चाहता हूं जो कोर्ट आफ इक्वायरी बैठी है, विद्युत विभाग की ओर से जो उच्चस्तरीय समिति का गठन हुआ है वे इस बात पर विचार करें और देखें कि जिन लोगों की इस प्रकार की लापरवाही से दुर्घटनायें होती है उनको

किस प्रकार कड़े से कड़ा दण्ड दिया जाये। यह जो दुर्घटना हुई है उसने सारे देश और राष्ट्र का ध्यान आकृष्ट किया है लेकिन इससे पहले भी और आज भी आये दिन खानों मे दुर्घटनाये होती रही है जिनकी ओर ध्यान नही जाता है। मै अपने उत्तर प्रदेश के पहाड़ी जिलों की बात कर रहा हू। हमारे यहा मसूरी की पहाड़ियों मे लाइम-स्टोन की क्वैरीज है जहा पर रोजमर्रा मजदूर मरते है। चूकि प्राइवेट सैक्टर मे खाने चलती है और उनकी साठ-गाठ माइन सेफ्टी डायरेक्टोरेट मे होती है इसलिए मामला रफा-दफा कर दिया जाता है और मजदूरो को कोई कम्पेसेशन नही मिलता है। मै तो कहूगा कि इस देश के मजदूरो की देशभक्ति का यह नमूना है कि ऐसी घटनाओ के बाद भी वे जोखिम उठाकर अपना काम करते रहते है। कुछ दशक पहले फ्रास मे ऐसी दुर्घटना हुई तो उसके बाद मजदूरो ने काम पर जाना बन्द कर दिया लेकिन हमारे देश मे इस जोखिम के बावजूद काम करते है यह उनकी देशभक्ति की बात है।

अन्त मे मै कहूगा कि इस प्रकार संवेदनशील भाव व्यक्त करके, कानून बना करके और संसद मे इसकी चर्चा करके हम उन विधवाओ की माग का सिंदूर नही भर सकते जिनके पति हमेशा के लिए चले गए है, उन अनाथ बच्चो को सहारा नही दे सकते जिनके पिता इस संसार से चले गए है। किन्तु मै यादव जी से कहना चाहता हू कि आगे के लिए वे इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था करे कि खानों मे काम करने वाले मजदूरो की पूरी सुरक्षा रहे और इस प्रकार के गैर जिम्मेदार लोगों को कड़े से कड़ा दण्ड देने की व्यवस्था हो। इन शब्दों के साथ, यादव जी ने जो व्यक्तव्य दिया है उसका भी समर्थन करता हू और अत्यन्त खेद व्यक्त करता हू कि इस प्रकार की दुर्घटना हुई।

17.00 hrs.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Calcutta-South): Mr Chairman, Sir, the whole country is deeply moved and shocked at the accident of Chasnala and our Minister of Steel and Mines, Shri Chandrajit Yadav, in his statement, has made it absolutely clear that the Government is taking all possible steps at least to see that people, if at all anybody is alive, are properly rescued and other immediate measures are taken

I am not going into detail, since almost all the reseponsible Members from the Opposition and from our Party have expressed their views. Some of them have visited the area and have given the actual position as they had witnessed there. I would like to deal with the accident in a different angle in the country

As you know, Sir, the main source of our wealth in the country is from the coal mines and the main achievements of our country, whether it is industry or transport or energy, are due to coal I do not like to make any premature statement at the beginning till the inquiry is not over as to whether it is a sabotage or any conspiracy But immediately after the Emergency we are deeply concerned with some of the incidents, like, the sabotage in electrical plants of the State Electricity Boards in various States, a few minor and major trains accidents, the disaster in Chasnala and today's statement by the Minister of Petroleum about the incident in the Bombay High All this is no way gives any indication that the growth of the country's economy is entirely dependent on its being run smoothly either by the workers or the management.

[Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi]

Before the coal mines were taken by the Government, they were in the hands of the private individuals. Rightly or wrongly, they had done their best to exploit the workers and the resources of the country. Before that, they were in the hands of the British. But I do feel, in view of the statement of the late Mr. Mohan Kumaramangalam, the nationalisation does not merely mean only to have an overall control on the wealth, the production and distribution but also to have a complete change in the administrative set up, including those machines and mechanisms in the operation of the coal mines or in other areas.

I would briefly put a few questions to the Minister for my personal curosity and for the curosity of the people in the country. I hope, the Minister will be able to give the answers to these questions. It is good enough for all of us to express our gratitude to those countries, specially who have rendered their help, like, Poland and Soviet Union, in their usual manner of friendship to India. Is it not bad enough for us to realise that in a country like India, after more than 28 years of operations in various sectors, like, coal mines and others, we are not in a position to claim that we are self-equipped in all capacities for all sorts of operations and accidents or sabotages or such disasters in coal mines without depending on foreign support? This gives us a clear indication that either the Coal Mines Safety organisation or the Government or the Ministry itself is not very clear as to which are the essential requirements for the Coal Mines Safety organisation to face the worst possible disaster in the country if at all it so happens. It is good that Soviet Union and Poland have come forward to help us in time. But it is not good on our part to feel that such type of help will always come on every occasion in every sphere.

Firstly, I want to know whether the Government or the Ministry or the Coal Mines Safety organisation has given a careful consideration and thought, after Jitpur colliery incident, to improve the character and condition of the safety equipment and the organisation through financial investment involving foreign expertise or improving the character and quality of research in the Coal Mines Safety organisation.

We often hear and listen even from the responsible political forces and the Government officials that some of the officials in every public sector undertaking are not happy with the system of activities run by the Government and that, on the contrary, they would have been extremely happy if the private sector would have been in-charge of these operations. I do not like to prejudice any officer nor I would like to put a question in regard to anybody in particular. I feel, it may not be the motive of all officials to go against the workers and the Government

But I would sincerely like to put a few questions as to whether it is not a fact that it has been found on several occasions in the coal-mine areas that complaints have been lodged by the working-class people against a few individuals in the coal-mines Management in the various collieries for their mis-conduct and for their criminal negligence, in some cases, about safety organisation, and if so, after the Jitpur incident, if any officials in this matter have been sacked, punished or suspended.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the relief is no doubt inadequate, even though the Government is trying its best to give some measure at least, including the State Governments and other non-official organisations. But, again, I come back to one of the important questions which I raised during the Jitpur discussion on the Floor of the House. We have seen that when a

plane crashes, the passengers who fly by airlines get compensation of not less than a lakh of rupees and we have seen that the passengers who can afford to fly by plane are not ordinary citizens or poor people. If this is the justice shown by one public sector undertaking to its passengers who are flying by plane, why can't the same justice be applied in another public sector undertaking or public sector unit where serious types of works are being done by coal-mine workers, the poorest people of the country to generate wealth for the country, by providing all sorts of amenities for the people who are not in the mines but outside? It is a great shock for all of us that we don't try to consider this problem in any manner which would have increased the morale of the people in the coal-mine areas.

After the Jitpur incident Mr. Mohan Kumaramangalam promised that he would look into the problem but, unfortunately and to our great shock, he is no more and he also died in a plane crash.

I visited some of the coal-mine areas—not during this incident but before—and everyone there posed the very same question; and they have taken it for granted that whether their lives are being secured or not just to fill their bellies they have to go to the mines, taking all risks This does not increase the good and healthy conditions of the mining areas.

If you take the example of the African coal-mines—African countries, most of which have been liberated just now or which are not yet liberated but are still under colonial rule—it has been stated that their mining operations and safety organisation and equipment are much more improved. On the contrary, the Indian coal-mines are not even up to the mark. Just imagine that the coal-mines safety organisation were not giving a factual report till the nationalisation of the coal-mines and the respective collieries! It was agreed upon, after nationalisation, that proper co-ordination would be made. Now, during the re-allocation of business among the Ministries, the nationalised coalmines came under the Ministry of Energy while a few coal-mines which are associated or attached to the steel companies are under the Ministry of Steel & Mines. So I would like to know whether at least now, in the role of Management for the security of the working-class people in the mine areas, any proper co-ordination is made between the Ministry of Energy, the Ministry of Steel & Mines and the Ministry of Labour; and if not in what way they are operating, I would like to know.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, another interesting thing which most of the Members have witnessed during their visit to Chasnala I would like to point out On the one hand, the Management of the public sector units are saying that there is no more room to recruit any other labour in the coal-mine areas and, in most cases, a few muster rolls have been demolished immediately after nationalisation because, it is true, there are many fake labourers. But, at the same time, we see that in every coal-mine, in respect of regular labour and without taking any other fresh labourers, some contractors are being deployed to save labourers. Those who are not guilty can come for the work but they have no security—though they are not fake—under the Compensation Act because they are not regular labour as per the muster roll. It is also interesting to note that the attendance registers—even after taking over the coal-mines—are not clear as to how many are going into the mines and how many are being kept out If this is so, what is the point of the General Manager there hiding the facts all the time? All these details would be revealed at thee time of the enquiry, I know. But, at the same time, I would make this request to the hon. Minister. Immediately after this Chasnala incident, our first task should be to increase the morale of the people working in the coalmines who are not

[Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi]

yet affected and who should not be affected adversely by incidents such as this, and also to make immediate enquiries and get reports on other coalmines, to ensure whether the safety operations are going on or not.

The last question to the Minister is whether he is aware of the fact that, during December, in the course of the usual inspection and check of the safety operations inside that mine, reports were made available to the General Manager apprehending some dangers in that mine, and if so, whether adequate measures before 27th December, 1975, were taken or not. These are not matters to be gone into in the inquiry; this information must be easily available with him just now.

With these words, I would like to conclude because nothing is to be said here until the inquiry is over. But I would just make a point in reference to the speech made by a Member of the Opposition, Shri Samar Mukherjee. I am grateful to him that he visited the area and expressed sympathy with the working people. But I do feel that, taking the incident of Chasnala, it would not be wise on our part, whether sitting on the ruling party side or on the Opposite, to make any sarcastic remarks about the standard of discipline or the character of production in our country, because, that would ultimately demoralise the whole trend which is geared up at the moment.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA (BARMER): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while we are debating the Chasnala disaster, each one of the speaker of this august House has expressed a sense of deep sorrow. We all feel as if we are under the shadow of a very harrowing and poignant tragedy. I join all my hon. colleagues in expressing my sense of sorrow and sympathy for the bereaved families.

Now, I want to make one proposal. Tomorrow or this evening, the radio and the press will carry the news that Parliament discussed the Chasnala disaster, and various Members criticised this and that. I would make one suggestion. I hope I am expressing the feelings of all the hon. Members present here. It is true that the entrapped workers have lost their lives, and those lives cannot come back. But just as a humble token of our sympathies with the bereaved families, I propose, each one of the hon. Members of this august House may donate today's allowance to the Chasnala Relief Fund. I hope all the hon. Members will agree with this proposal that one day's allowance will be contributed to the Chasnala Relief Fund that has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri Chandrajeet Yadav.

I do not want to repeat any of the points that have already been made, nor do I want to go into the facts. But I would say one thing. There is a general feeling among the mine management, the industrial management, the management of the public sector and also the private sector that the security rules are an impediment to production This is a great misconception which has got to be removed. The safety precautions are meant not only to save human lives which are as important as, if not more important than, the national production—human lives are sacred, each man's life is sacred to us—but also to preserve uninterrupted production The statistics prove that accidents, whether in mines or factories, lead to not only loss of human lives but also to loss of production, loss of mandays. They exceeded the target of production in this particular mine. But what has happened today? For months, I am afraid, the entire mine will have to be abandoned, and production will completely cease. First of all, this misconception must be removed, and the Government must impress upon the entire management of the industries, mines and all other sectors, that the safety precautions are a must for uninterrupted production as well as for the safety of human lives.

I would support the demand made in this House that the Compensation Act must immediately be amended. Rs. ten thousand for the loss of a life is a mockery. This also, I was told, is not the limit. If management wants, it can pay more than Rs. ten thousand, but that never happens. No management pays more than Rs. ten thousand; even this Rs. ten thousand is paid grudgingly I would request that minimum compensation for a loss of life in any mine or industry should be Rs. fifty thousand.

Many a time, it has happened in the coal mines and other mines that workers apprehend some danger to their security; they apprehend that certain safety rules are not being observed. Under such cases, the workers' right to refuse to work must be recognised. When they point out non-observance of certain safety rule, or they apprehend danger to their security, immediate action must be taken. Actually what happens is different. I have my own experience in a particular mine. When there have been violations of safety rules, or when danger has been apprehended and the workers have refused to work, they have been charge-sheeted, suspended and reprimanded. And later on, accidents have occurred and their fears have been vindicated. In such cases, I would urge upon the Government to see that whenever a group of workers point out any violation of safety rules, and they refuse to work, that right must be recognised and whatever violation is there, that should be set right.

Today, I was reading in Patriot, how the Mines Safety Laws have a long history in our country, and it has been claimed that our safety laws are as perfect as anywhere in the world. And, there is no doubt, whatsoever that if all the safety measures are observed strictly, 80 per cent of the accidents can be avoided. What does it mean? It means, that if ny accident takes place in coal mine or any other mine or factory, it must be assumed that violation of some safety measures has taken place. This must be assumed and the management must immediately be punished until and otherwise later on proved beyond any doubt that it was not responsible for it. It must be assumed whenever there is an accident.

In the case of Chasnala disaster, this enquiry will go on and usually in such disasters, no evidence is left behind. I am afraid, the entire thick wall might have been washed away, because it was a torrential deluge and probably we would not be able to find the bodies, only skeltons may be there. One does not know, such disasters do not leave any evidence. This question will go on for years and years, no responsibility would be fixed by then the people who are responsible would not be here; they might have retired or promoted, or they might find out ways to escape. That is not the proper way. Whenever accidents take place, the management must be held responsible, they must be suspended immediately, because it is assumed and it can be taken for granted that without violation of safety laws, accidents do not take place. Our safety laws are fool-proof and when accidents take place, it must be assumed that violation has taken place and they must be punished.

Now, a word about the mining safety arrangement. I was shocked to learn that there was a proposal to disband the office of the Mines Safety at Dhanbad. There was even a proposal that the Department of Mines Safety should be under the concerned Ministries. This would be disasters. The Mines Safety organization is a policing force, to enforce mines safety rules. But, what is the position to-day? Many hon. Members referred to the Director-General of Mines Safety. As a matter of fact to-day there is no such person. There is only an Acting Director-General of Mines safety. For more than two years, I suppose, there has been no Director-General of Mines Safety. He is horribly under-staffed, the Inspectors under him and the Offi-

cers under him. For example, for the whole of Rajasthan—Rajasthan is the second State where mines wealth is the largest, after Bihar—there is only one Inspector for Mines Safety. Horribly under-staffed all these Inspectors are also poorly paid. In such conditions how can you imagine that a Mines Safety Inspector could face the General Manager of a huge complex, a Rs. 200 crores or Rs. 500 crores worth complex where the mining safety or the factory safety rules are violated? That poor Inspector goes, nobody listens to him and nobody cares for him. Moreover, what is happening especially in public sector undertakings is that these Mines Safety Inspectors are lured away by offer of remunerative jobs in their undertakings. Previously, the private sector used to bribe them. Now the public sector firms pick them up, offer them better posts with higher salaries. With that temptation the Mine Safety Inspector does not do anything with the hope that he will get a more remunerative job in the public sector undertaking. Unless the mining safety organization is strengthened, unless the mining safety directorate is strengthened with adequate staff and with adequate number of Inspectors and their emoluments raised sufficiently enough so that they can confront the highest managerial officers in the public sector and having raised their emoluments, a ban could be imposed on them from accepting any job in any other public undertaking, the mines safety organization cannot act as an effective policeman. Otherwise, what does happen? Even these days even if it is proved that it is not an accident but a murder or massacre, the Inspector of Mines Safety launches the prosecution in the local court and it goes on and nothing happens. These procedures have to be radically revised and their powers enhanced, the organization strengthened and mining safety must be made very rigidly enforceable because it is necessary not only to save valuable human lives but also to ensure uninterrupted production of national wealth.

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि एक दिन का डी० ए० उनको रिलीफ फंड के लिये दे दिया जाये, मैं इनकी आज्ञा का पालन करते हुए आज का अपना डी० ए०, 51 रुपये मंत्री महोदय को देता हूं।

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV): I fully associate myself with all the hon. Members who have expressed their concern and sorrow for the families of the workers who have been trapped in the Chasnalla mine. My heartfelt sympathies are with those families who are still under a pressure of great anxiety and still with some little hope they are looking towards the rescue operation that is going on. Really speaking, even today we are not in a position to say what will be the fate of the workers but we are proceeding only in this hope that there are survivors. There are some precedents in mining history that people have been saved and rescued after weeks and that is the reason why the Government is doing everything possible for rescue operation, to pump out the water and nothing is being left out.

As the whole country knows, the entire resources within the country and even from outside have been mobilised. Some friendly countries have offered their help and we accepted these offers promptly as it will perhaps help as in early dewatering of the mine and saving the previous lives of the workers who are unfortunately trapped.

While Speaking in this debate many suggestions have been made and I must say, they are useful suggestions. Some people have tried to find out the reasons thereof. Perhaps, this is a sheer guess. It will not be appropriate for me to say at this stage as to what were the reasons and circumstances responsible for this great tragedy as

the Government has appointed a court of enquiry. We, therefore, leave it to the court of enquiry to go into those reasons and details. At this stage, I can only assure the honourable members and this House that if the court of enquiry will come to this conclusion that any particular officer howsoever high he may be due to his negligence or failure in his duty has been responsible for this great tragedy, no mercy will be shown to him and Government will take immediate action against that officer.

I have placed before the House the possible efforts that are being made. The latest report was trying to get from the spot so that I may place the same before the House.

Hon. Member, Dr. Ranen Sen was a little uncharitable to me when, he said that I was sitting at Chandigarh I got the report on the 27th December, afternoon. The first thing that was done was that my colleague, the Labour Minister and myself got into touch with all the officers on the spot. We gave the instructions that throughout the length and breadth of the country from wherever rescue apparatus can be made available, may be acquired and no effort should be spared to help them Immediately after that I brought it to the notice of the Prime Minister because it was a big tragedy and the Prime Minister gave me the same instructions i.e, every possible effort should be made to help them. I got in touch with my honourable colleague Shri R. N. Sharma who represents that constituency. The next morning, we rushed to the spot and we saw that all our organisations BCCL or D G M.S., or the Company officers and officers on the spot all were working with the fullest co-operation of the State Government. The local authorities were extremely helpful in this rescue operation. There was perfect and full co-ordination. A newly appointed Administrator of IISCO was asked to co-ordinate the entire duties. A Committee of the Technical personnel was formed.

There were so many difficulties, certain equipments were to be taken from the shaft, the openings were very narrow and the water hundreds of feet below was there. On the 28th evening we were in a position to start dewatering.

It was an unprecedented kind of tragedy. I may be charged or someone can be charged as to why did we not envisage that this kind of tragedy may take place. This kind of tragedy was not expected at all. This mine was inspected during 1975 on 20 occasions by D.G.M.S. but nothing abnormal was found.

Just 12 days before this tragedy, this was inspected by the DGMS on 15th of December and there was no indication to say that this kind of a tragedy might happen. So, it will be completely wrong to lay the blame on the officers there We have one of our high officers there. They are first class managers. The General Manager only narrowly escaped. He came but just ten minutes before the tragedy took place He, along with the safety Officer, made the inspection. Therefore, it would be most unfair to say that they were criminally negligent and all that, that they kenw that the water is coming that they kenw that the wall is going to burst and all that It would be wrong on our part to blame any person saying that he was doing something wrongly or intentionally.

My friend, Mr. Priya Ranjan Das Munsi said that every possible step should be taken to strengthen the rescue operations, I felt myself that perhaps we should have stronger rescue operations; perhaps our safety measures should be on a much more bigger scale Form the fact of the appointement of a committee, one cannot conclude that there may be certain weaknesses. That is not a correct thing to say and that will not be fair. I wish that we compare ourselves with certain other countries. I do not say that we are completely

[Shri Chandrajit Yadav]

immune from this kind of a thing or that our Safety Organisation is 100 per cent perfect. But, as I said, we are trying to do our best. Maybe, we will have to strengthen it. I would like to make some comparisons with other countries. It is not at all my case that they were 100 per cent perfect. That is not at all my case, Sir.

If you see some figures, you will appreciate what I say. These are the 1973 figures, the latest figures. The fatality rate per 1,000 persons is as follows:

Japan—1.58

Canada—1.15

Australia—1.14

U.S.A.—0.89

Belgium—0.89.

Cxechoslovakia—0.82

India—0.50

W. GERMANY—0 49

U.K.—0.31

I entirely agree with the sentiments expressed by hon. Members that everything possible should be done to minimise the rate of accidents. Each and every life of our worker who is working underground, the contributing to the development and progress of the country, is indeed very precious. We should see that every possible effort is made to give safetey to his life and person so that he may work with more confidence.

Now, I wish to remind the honourable House that as soon as I got the report, on the next day we reached, there. My colleague the Labour Minister was there I met the officers personally who were doing the rescue operations. The Labour Minister stayed behind. Because there was some important coordination to be done from Delhi, I came to Delhi and then went to Chandigarh only with a view to pose the latest developments to the Prime Minister. Certain offers of help were received from other countries and we had to consider how to avail of those offers of help.

The Labour Minister and myself were of the opinion that at the earliest the court of enquiry should be announced Therefore, I wanted to take the clearance of the Prime Minister. We should act as early as posible and be in a position to announce the court of enquiry. That was my purpose of going to Chandigarh. I am the saddest person to-day that we have lost so many precious lives. Immediately I came back I was trying my best to coordinate everything posible apart from many agencies from many other countries, officials and non-officials within the country and they were to be contacted so that may expedite the help.

Again the labour Minister and myself went to the place of occurrence and we visited many many families. It was a heart-breaking scene. After all it was a big tragedy and I fully appreciate and share the sorrow that has happened to those families because of this tragedy To say that because the atmosphere was not very congenial and so I left the place within a few hours is most uncharitable I must say When we went there Shri Sharma was there who is my colleague who represents this constituency. There were a few thousand workers and we together went and addressed the meeting of the workers It shows the fulest coperation, fullest understanding I must say and without their cooperation the rescue operations would not have been possible They did appreciate that the tragedy had happened perhaps in a manner which was not expected at all The Government form the very begining did no leave any stone unturned and everything possible was done They were cooperative and there was full understanding For this I must congrataulate the workers They were doing their work and they had grouped in hundreds and we got the full coorperation from the workers Shri Mukherjee mentioned about some of our colleagues who are working there and the INTUC people were good enough to take him round the place of occurance

and he met some of them and I also met them. I must say that every worker there felt that his first job was to help in rescue operation and nobody put in any blame on anybody and, at that time, nobody even contested that figures which is being said today is much more than 400. It will be a crime to conceal the figure. After all we have lost certain precious lives. If it is 375 or even 400, what does it matter. Why should we commit the crime of concealing the figure The register or the records show that the figure was 372. Later on we find that in place of one person another person went in his place. Therefore a few more persons may be there. From the enquiry report we can find it out. The list has been published in local newspapers. Today I give instructions that the list should be published even in those newspapers from whose States even one worker is supposed to be involved in that tragedy. We have nothing to conceal. You will say that unfortunately they were not able to save their lives. It so happens that inspite of our effo'' to save every worker, who is involv ' in this tragedy, maximum possible thing will be done.

I fully appreciate that certain suggestions have been made that there should be compensation but the rate is very low Suggestions have been made about group insurance. Even this morning I had a meeting with my colleague, the Minister of Energy. I had earlier a meeting with my colleague, the labour Minister and we had been talking about this and I want to assure this House that these suggestions, particularly those suggestions, namely that we should increase the rate of compensation—if so, how much—and we should do the group insurance—for this whether we should approach the LIC people or we should have to build up an organisation to do this and also how to strengthen the organisations to see that whatever equipments there are they are operated by the better qualified staff. At least I want to assure this House that government will give a sympathetic consideration and we shall see that all these things are implemented in a manner that we should be able to take care of our workers.

Sir, I must say many trade union workers including Shri Damodar Pandey were the first to suggest to us that there should be a national welfare fund for the workers and the workers working in the coal industry will come forward and donate one day's salary and let the matching salary be given by the Government and the companies so that we may have a good amount of fund at our disposal if such tragedies happen. Not that we will wait for tragedies to happen. Even the loss of one life is very precious and we have to see as to what can we do for their children's education. We are thinking on these lines The committee which has been formed under my chairmanship has been formed with this end in view as to what should be the immediate relief given to these families and what should be the long term relief to those who are involved in such accidents. Already one meeting of this committee has taken place and the second meeting is taking place this evening after this debate is over We are thinking of what can we do for the education of the children of those unfortunate families who are in this difficulty; what we can do for the marriage of the daughters of those people who are trapped; whether we can work out long-term pension or provident fund scheme for those families.

Sir, the Prime Minister has been so good enough and kind enough that she immediately gave Rs 4 lacs from her fund and also told me that we should see that this relief is not given in lump sum but we must work out some schemes for long-term real assistance to these families. We are thinking on these lines and we hope, that we will be able to work out a scheme to everyone's satis-

[Shri Chandrajit Yadav]

faction. Even then I am fully aware that no compensation can compensate those families who have lost either their husbands or sons or brothers or fathers. But after all this tragedy has happened and it was perhaps beyond our control.

Now, the question is as to how to compensate and bring relief and solace to these families. We are trying to do this. It has been said perhaps Mr. Ohri who was the Chief Executive of this mine was involved in an earlier Jeetpur accident. This is not correct. He was not the General Manager at that time of Jeetpur. His brother was associated with Jeetpur accident and he was asked by the company to go from the company but his headquarters at that time were at Burnpur and he was working in the planning organisation.

AN HON. MEMBER: Was he not in the same organisation, namely, IISCO?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV He was in the same organisation. But he was at Burnpur No reference has been made about him. Sir, I will very humbly say this was not the time to take action against the officials Our first and foremost task was to see that those who knew the nature and character of the mine, we should take their help to dewater the water which was in that mine. That was the most important work and, therefore, we thought any person who knew the mine if we remove him or take any action against him perhaps it was not in the interests of the work which we had given top priority at that time

Sir, it has also been said that in Jeetpur accident no action was taken on the recommendations of the Jeetpur enquiry committee. This is also not correct Many suggestions were made. One of the important suggestions about a separate cadre of the safety and ventilation officers should be organised. This suggestion was implemented. Then there was the suggestion that at the mine level the safety officers should be assisted by the ventilation officers. This suggestion was also implemented. Then there was the suggestion about the revival of the pit safety committee. This was also implemented. There were many other suggestions regarding supervisory officers including engineering officers to be made fully aware of their duties and responsibilities. These duties and responsibilities were clearly defined and they were given to these officers and its compliance has been observed regularly. Certain officers who were found responsible particularly three officials, Sarvashri K. R. Dhandwal, Verma and O. P. Ohri—not this Ohri—were removed from the company and action was taken against them.

Sir, it will not also be correct to say that the DGMS had warned or rather prohibited the working of Horizon No. 1. There was no report like that and there was no indication from that organisation.

Sir, certain suggestions have been made here. Now, the hon. Minister of Energy has appointed a committee. What is the purpose and object behind the appointment of this committee? After this tragedy, it is not that we are shutting our eyes. May be that this tragedy itself has awakened us. As it has been said, it has roused the conscience of the whole country. Why should we not presume that this kind of thing may happen and why should we not do everything possible to prevent such things from being happening?

As I have said earlier, it is normal thing that there is seepage of one million gallons of water in this mine. For the purpose of de-watering, every arrangement was made at the mine level and the work was being done. Certain horizontal pumps were working—five of them—but, unfortunately, they are now flooded There were also two-three pumps available

at the station and they were used. BCCL also rushed all the available pumps. Sir, I have earlier expressed our gratitude to the Soviet Union and to Poland whose experts are even today working very hard along with our officers; their pumps are also working. The USA and West Germany have also offered their help. We have also expressed our gratitude to them. But, it took some time to instal the pumps from the Soviet Union. The nature of the mine is such that even though the pumps started working, there were certain difficulties. Even the experts who came could not understand how to work in this complicated situation. Later on, other experts also joined them. Even today, though five pumps are available at the spot, only three pumps are working. The pumps available in our country are of the capacity of 500-800 gallons per minute. The pumps from the Soviet Union which we got are also of 350 gallons per minute capacity. It is not that they are high-capacity pumps and that we are lagging behind in this respect. This is not the case. At the moment, we are able to pump out about 12,000 gallons per minute. Out of this, 75 per cent of the water is being pumped out by the pumps available in the country itself. We ensured that they reached the spot at the earliest opportunity. But, we are extremely sorry, our heart is full of sorrow and pain, that this tragedy has taken place. Certain suggestions have been made. As I said earlier, this accident should not be linked with the safety conditions in the entir coal mines. As I said earlier, measures were being taken. The organisation had been strengthened. But, we feel it our duty that we should go on strengthening this. If there are more modern methods and if there are better qualified people available, we should take advantage of them. If certain suggestions have been made by the Members, why should we not take advantage of those suggestions and see that the incidence of accidents is reduced to the minimum? With these words, Sir, I would like to assure the House...

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Mr. Yadav, I am told that this pumped out water is polluting the Damodar and other rivers. DVC has issued a warning.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: Let us not go by the BBC, I am very sorry to say that sometimes the BBC comes out with fantastic and baseless news. They came out first with the news that 900 people got trapped in this.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Not BBC, but DVC.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: Even DVC. Let us not go on the basis of baseless rumours published in some newspapers. I am very sorry to say that some newspapers sometimes unnecessarily and baselessly quote officials when the officials had not made those statements. Even they have been quoted like this in newspapers.

I would like members to bear with me. Dewatering operation is still going on. Today nothing should be published in the press which would unnecessarily demoralise our workers, which would create misunderstanding. We are all occupied with the most important and top priority work of dewatering the mines and providing relief to those families.

It has been said that many money lenders are perhaps harassing those people. I must say that the Bihar Government, particularly the local administration under the supervision of the Deputy Commissioner, Dhanbad, have done commendable work. I will be failing in my duty if I do not pay my gratitude to them. They have done their maximum. As social workers, those people have been working day

[Shri Chandrajit Yadav]

and right. We have seen that they have reached every family. They have taken care of every family. Even the police did extremely good work. They have been giving every possible support. I want to assure the House that nobody would be allowed to be so hard-hearted as to exploit these people. If anybody does so and harasses them, it will be brought to our notice and we will take the strictest action; if it is brought to our notice, the strictest measures will be taken against those people who have the courage to create any kind of harassment to these families.

I want to say a word of gratitude to the social organisations. Many State Governments have come forward with their donations. Many trade union organisations have come forward with their donations. So also many individuals. As you have seen, in this House also there was a proposal about it. Shri Shankar Dayal Singh was saying something about it. The House knows it already. To those who have extended their help in any form, we are very grateful.

This tragedy is, really speaking, a national tragedy. Therefore, our people have extended every possible support and help to these people. I must say that the House has debated this issue keeping in mind that concrete suggestions should come out. We will take all these into consideration. The court of inquiry will go into all the details. We have requested the ex-Chief Justice of the Patna High Court to start the inquiry as soon as possible. On Committee formed by the Energy Minister has already started working. The Committee for the co-ordination of relief under my chairmanship has started working. I want to assure the House that everything possible has been done and our effort will be to see that this kind of tragedy does not occur in future. Whatever has to be done, should be done by the Government.

DR. RANEN SEN: I do not want to make a speech. When I spoke, I levelled certain criticism against the Energy Ministry. I had quoted about the failure of the Energy Ministry to look after mines safety. I said that Mr. Pant was more interested in production and nobody was interested in mines safety. I had quoted the President of the Burdwan District Congress Committee who had openly said in a newspaper that the mines in Asansol and Raniganj are in a very precarious condition. He had asked for a proper inquiry.

SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH: Do not allow a new discussion. He has already started it.

DR. RANEN SEN: No discussion. Mr. Pant was not here at that time. Now he is here. Otherwise, I would not have raised this point.

The Congress President had stated that a thorough enquiry into the condition of mines, the safety and security aspect of it, has to be made, to find out the actual position.

18.00 hrs.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: That is a wider aspect. The hon. Member has made the suggestion and the Government will look into that

श्री राम सहाय पांडे (राजनंद गांव) : जिस चिंता और सावधानी और सतर्कता के साथ इस प्रश्न को सम्भाला गया है और पैसा, अनाज आदि उपलब्ध किया गया है और उनको आश्वासन दिये गए हैं उनके लिए सरकार बधाई की पात्र है। लेकिन एक आश्वासन मैं चाहता हूं। जो कामगर माइन के नीचे काम कर रहे थे उनके जीवित होने की और सम्भावना नहीं है तो उनके परिवार में जो लोग काम करने लायक हैं क्या उनको टाप प्रायोरिटी देकर कहीं न कहीं सर्विस देने का प्रयास आप करेंगे ?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: It is a very important question and I should like to say a word. As soon as we reached the site, immediately we announced that not only one person will be given employment but adequate employment to all those families will be given. We have already offered certain employment to those who came forward and offered themselves for employment.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: I want to make one suggestion, with the fullest satisfaction on the statements and the answers he has given in the course of this debate. When he sits as the Chairman of the committee, will he be kind enough to consider a major problem? The mine will be closed and possibly there will be no operation there The workers who were working there will be without employment. How will they survive?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: We have seen that all those who were working in that mine were given alternative employment. Some of them, about 600 of them are is this rescue operation; others have been shifted to the neighbouring mines. As we have said, we will see that every one of them is given his salary for this month and we shall see that none of them is without a job.

18.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, January 15, 1976/Pausa 25, 1897 (Saka).

GMGIPND—L—1929LS—10-2-76—978.